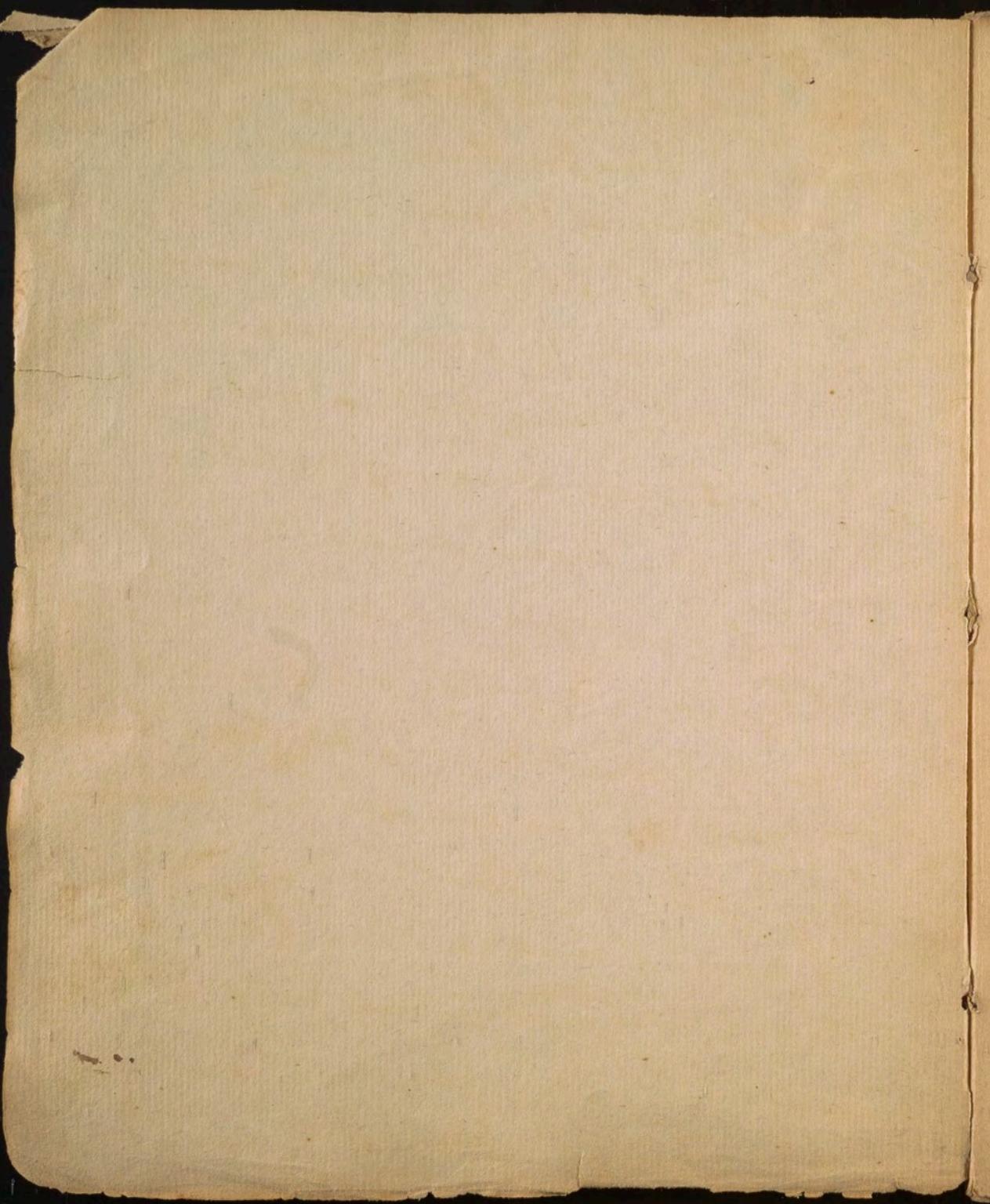


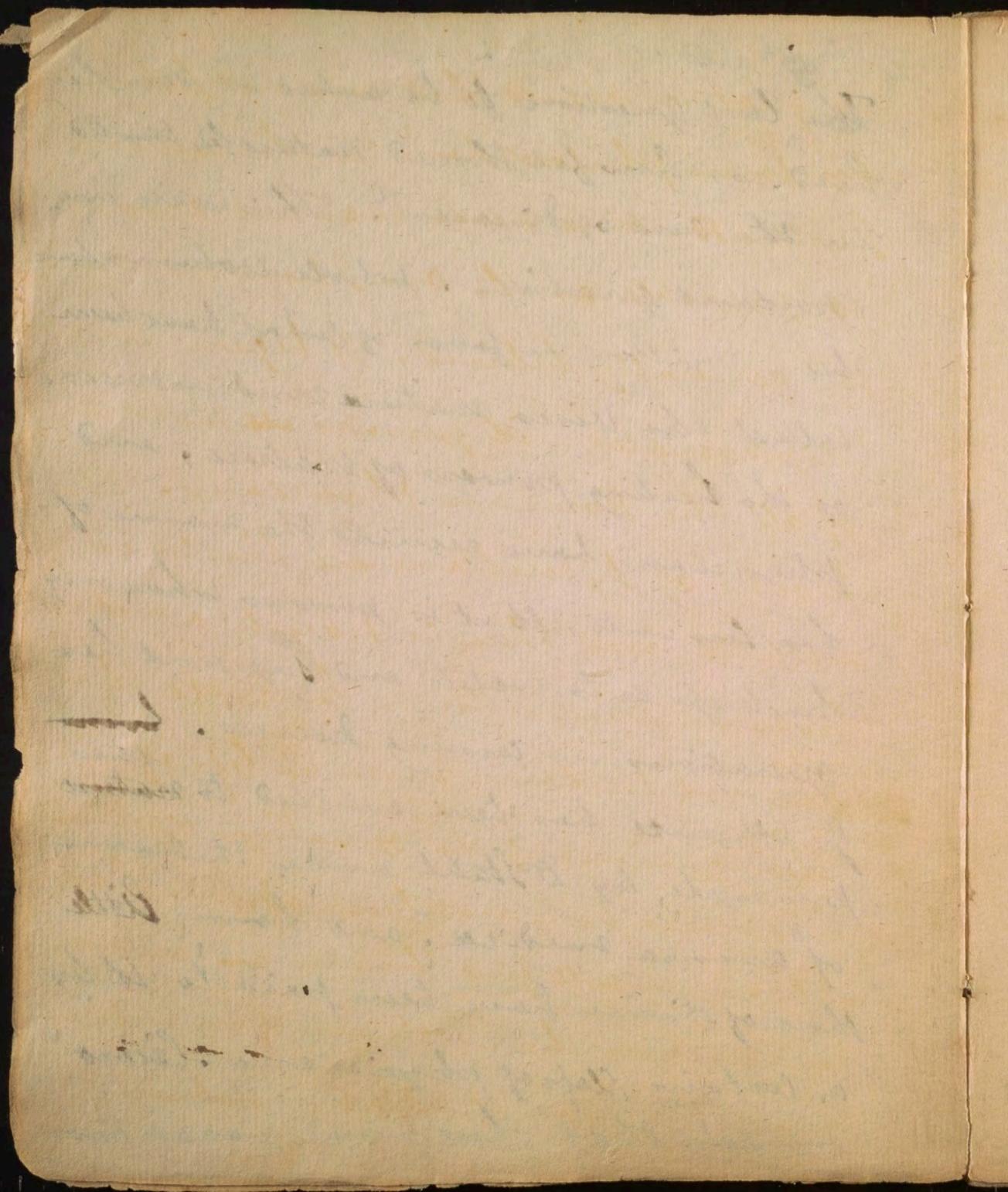
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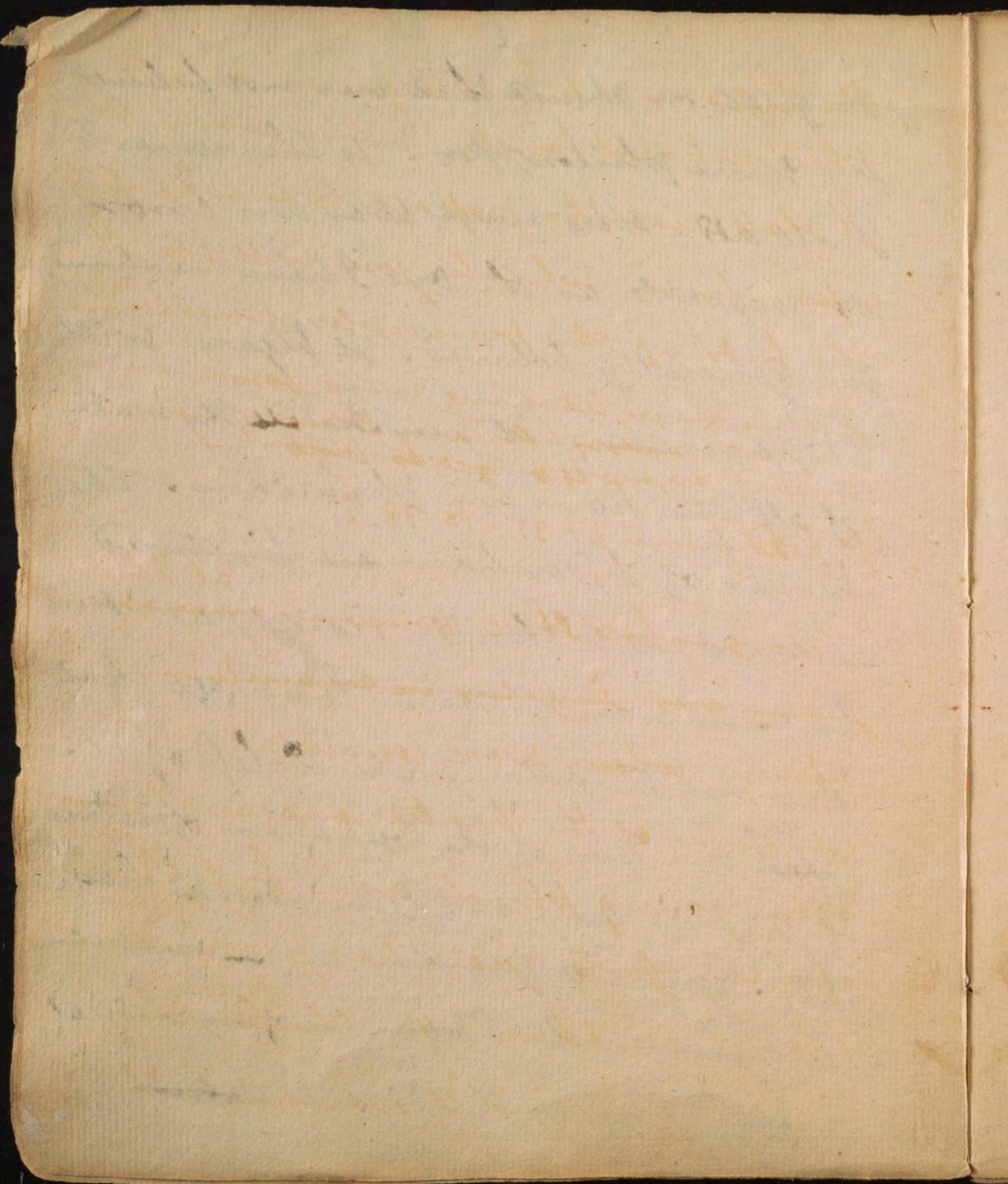
The 4th part

The last question to be asked under this head is, how far should nature be treated in the cure of diseases? This is an important question. Whole volumes have been written in favor of what have been called the "vires naturae medicatrices", or the healing powers of nature, and physicians have received the name of her servants, that is, persons whose only business is to watch and support her operations in curing diseases. ~~This~~
In intelligence has been ascribed to ~~nature~~ ^{this} principle by Dr Stahl under the name of "anima medica:" and honoris little short of divine have been paid to it by a certain class of physicians. Cicero remarks that there never was an en-



so great or absurd that was not believed
by some philosopher." To this remark
I will add - there never was an error
so palpable as the one I have mentioned,
so generally believed. It began with
Hippocrates, - it pervades all the writings
of all the Roman physicians. The
works of Sydenham are tinged
with it, and there is scarcely a medical
book in any modern language that
does not contain more or less of it.

^{my} ~~These~~ Opinions of the operations of nature
in diseases have not been adopted has-
-tily. You will find them in an oration
contained in the 1st volume of my medical
inquiries, upon the diseases delusions of



3

The Indians delivered before the American
Philosophical Society in the year 1772.

I shall read the passage to you which I
refer, from which you will see that
the seeds of the principles of medicine

I am now teaching were sown in my
~~at 20 or 30 at a early period of my medical~~
~~mind nearly 20 years ago.~~
life Read from p. 35["]- to 38["]:

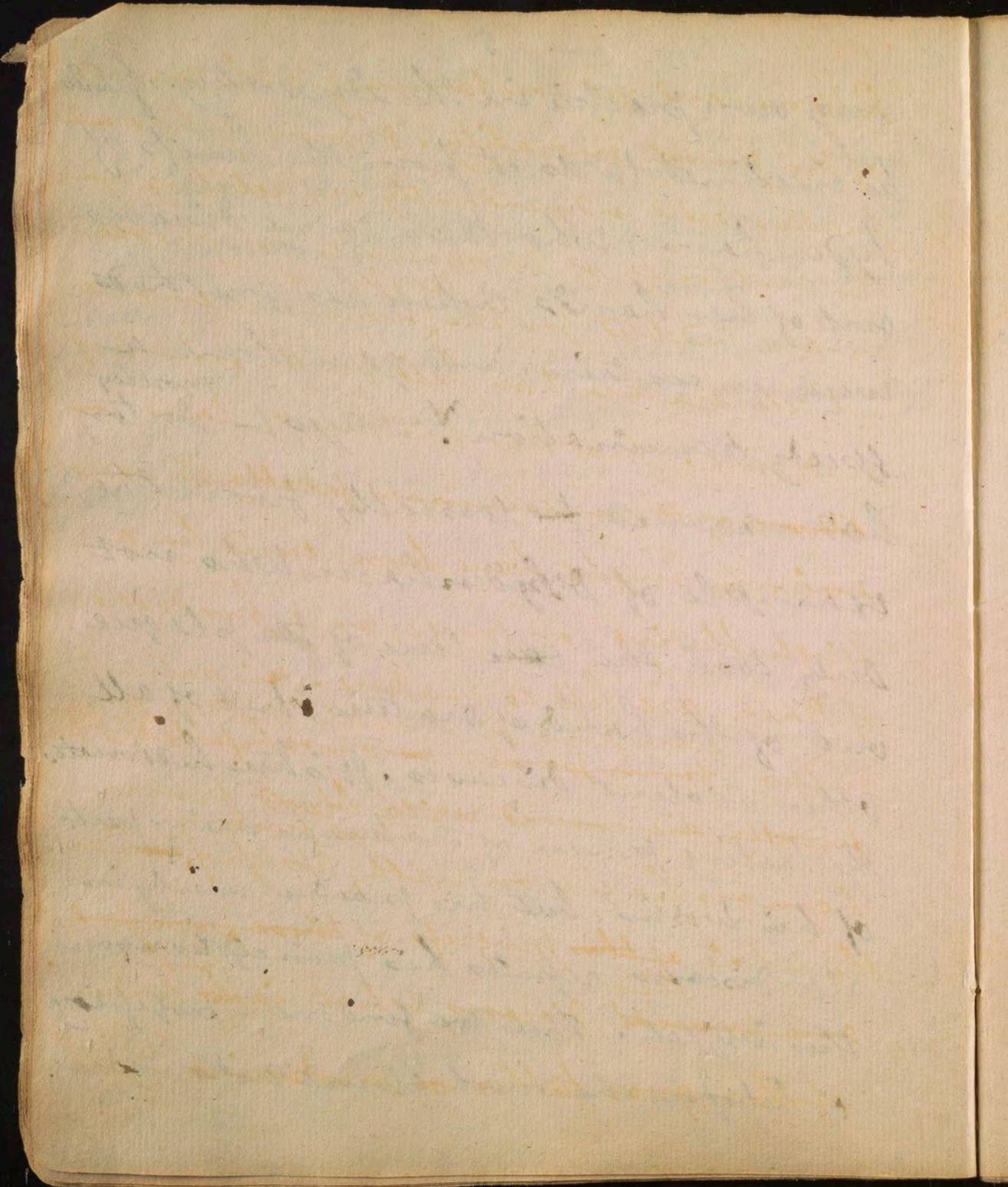
~~Now we will~~ These opinions ^{at their} may appear,
I am most singular in maintaining
delivery ~~which~~ were considered as the
effusions of the heated imagination
of a young physician, - but the lapse
of near forty years has produced no
change in them; on the contrary
it has confirmed & established them,

✓ Sir John Pringle in describing
a fever which prevailed in the British
Army writes as follows "In general
the fever was most frequent among the
poor who lay upon ground floors, and
wanted medicines, and in whom nature
was either ^{too weak} to make no cures, or but slow
and imperfect ones".

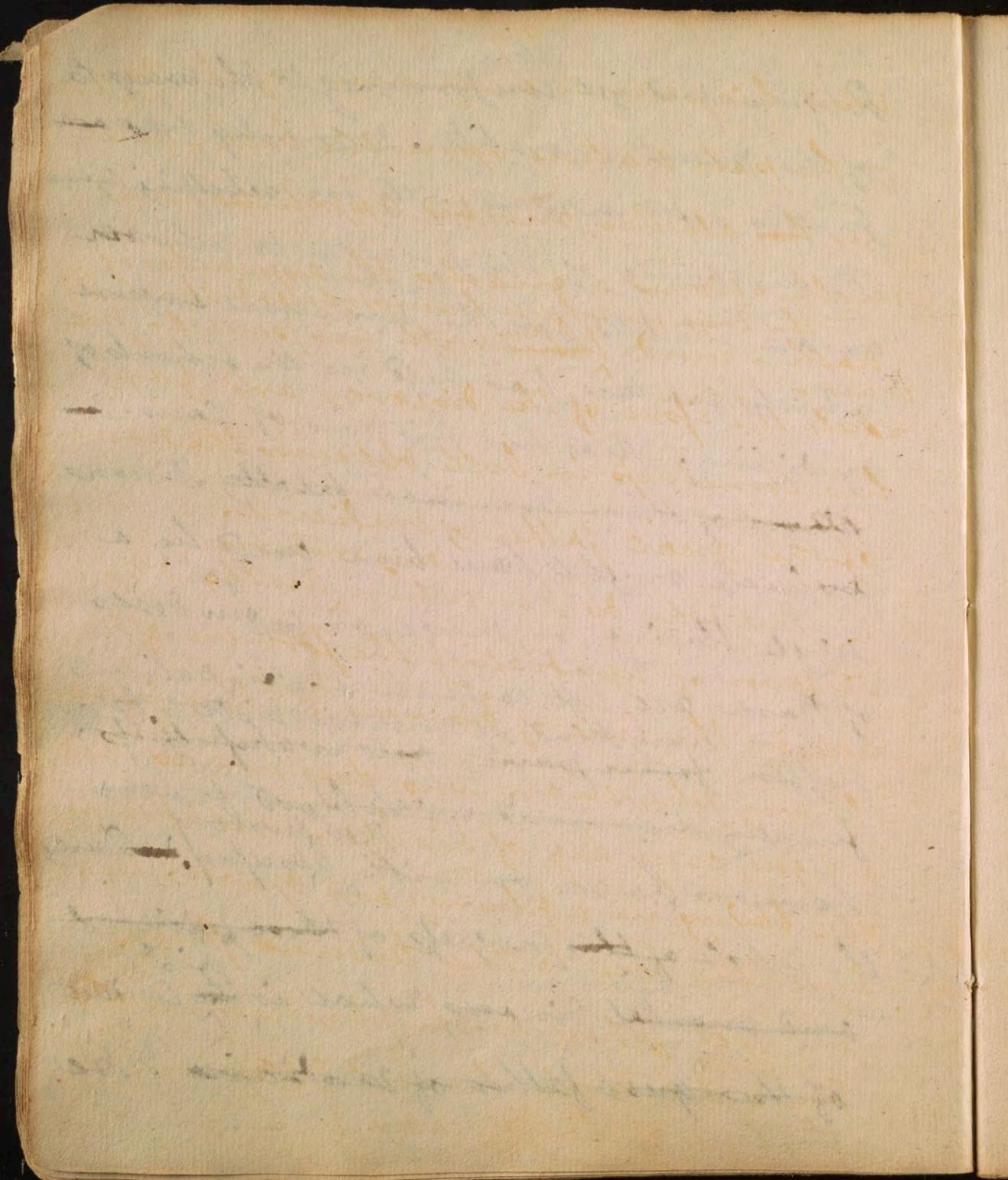
in my mind.⁴ Since that time I have
had the pleasure of finding my opinion
supported by several respectable physi-
cians. Dr Willis in speaking of the
plague says "The plague has this pecu-
liarity in it, that the cure should not
be left to nature, but we must ^{fight} against
it always with remedies taken from
Art."⁵ Dr Morley in speaking of nature
has the following words "whatever may
be the necessity of one evil in the works
of nature, to remove another, or the utility
of such remedies as few of which people
die, I am of opinion that diseases should
rarely be left to nature, & were I not
confirmed in this opinion by any

V For my part adds the Doctor, I have
no opinion of malice as a medical despot,
nor of obsequious physicians as herminis-
ters, which may be thought heresy in the
temple in which the high priest himself
^{says} "Nature cures diseases".

my own practice in the dysentery, I should
be inclined to do it from the report of
Hydenham, who took some diseases
out of his hands when his methods
were uncertain, and gave them a
speedy termination? - Yes - Doctor
has reasoned ~~too~~ correctly from the
example of Dr. Hydenham who not
only took the ~~the~~ cure of the plague
out of the hands of nature, but of all
other violent diseases. It is true he advocates
the healing power of nature in many parts
of his works, but his practice nearly in
all diseases refutes his principles upon
this subject. Thus we find men professing
a belief in the most absurd notions in



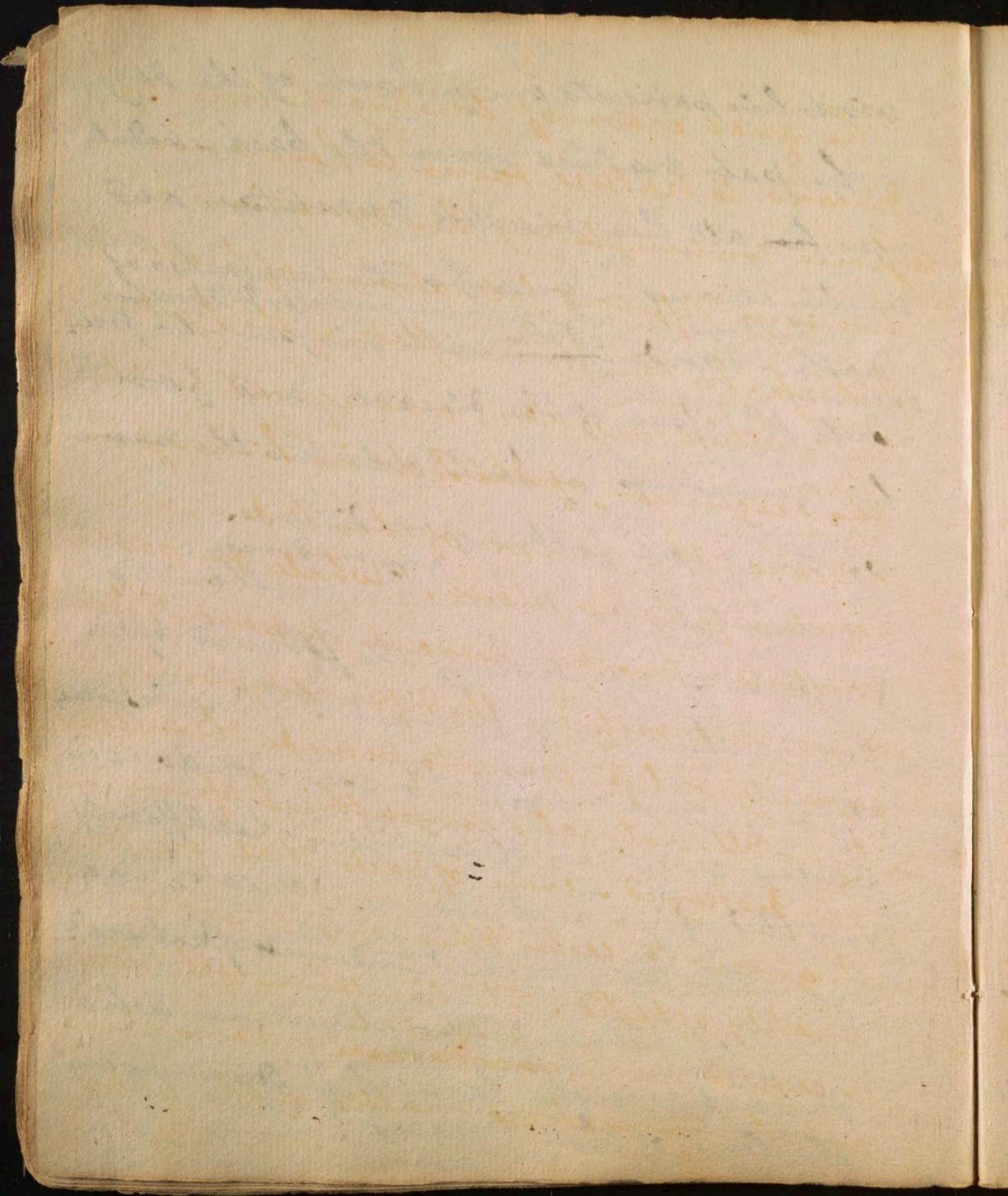
Religion, and yet conforming to the concepts
 of the purest morality. Dr. Morely has ~~also~~
 further acted independently in rebelling against
 the authority of Hippocrates to whose
 we are indebted for the ^{long &} universal empire
 which matter has held in the schools of
 medicine. Read his histories of cases. —
~~Most of them terminate fatally~~ discuss
 which might have been cured by a
 single bleeding, or purge, or a few doses
 of Bark are left to Nature. His patients
 suffer ^{every kind of morbid} ~~from~~ ^{his} ~~and~~ ^{his} ~~benefit~~
~~finally die covered with blood from~~
~~hemorrhages, or with abscesses.~~ During
 the whole ^{of his} progress of these painful
 and mortal diseases, what is ^{the} ~~his~~ conduct
 of the great father of medicine? He



7

visits his patients every hour of the day,
— he puts nature upon the back — indulges
— yes here all her morbid appetites, and
inclinations — graphs the approaches of
— the days on which hemorrhages & abscesses
death — marks them with his pencil — pre-
occurs —
— diets the issue of the disease, and for
his concretions in both, obtains the name
of the great father of medicine.

But why do I mention ^{any modern} authorities
in favor of reputing the power of na-
— turae in the cure of diseases? There is none
— by any physician who does not do it in
a degree, every day of his life. What affinity
does bleeding in a pleurisy and opiate in a
dysentery bear to the tenderness of nature?
And yet where is the physician who
does not use the lancet & Opium in
the cure of those diseases? —



The great error of trusting the cure of diseases to nature seems to have arisen from contemplating her operations in two very different situations of health & sickness. In the former state of the system, she is active, regular, and equal to all ~~the~~ exigencies ^{of the} body in sickness or disease, the reverse of this order, and regularity takes place. "While one part is prostrate - another overacts its part - There is no reciprocity in the different systems. The capacity of life ceases to pervade them equally. - All natural sympathies & aspirations are destroyed - even of parts that are contiguous to each other, and most intimately related. The circulation of the blood is carried on by ^{artificial} ~~naturalized~~ means chiefly, and the ~~naturalized~~ matter of the body

V This is a view of the condition of the system under the direction of "disordered & debilitated nature" in most of diseases, but to show in a more striking light ^{her} the impotence, - the delirium, and the frantic operations of nature, I shall mention the state of the body under her direction in a violent bilious fever. Behold her! thumbing and oppressing the brain with too much blood, - inverting the natural order of the stomach and bowels, - rending and tearing the ^{Blood and} ~~Blood vessels~~ to pieces, weakening or annihilating the lenses, ^{paining} stanching one part of the skin with ~~the painful~~ degrees of heat, and another part ^{of it} with ~~the painful~~ degrees of cold at the same time - bathing the body with unprofitable sweats, and finally destroying life with a sudden and general convulsion. This

not only loses its ^I animalized, but its
animalized qualities, and partakes of
most of the properties of what is called
dead matter." ~~In short in all violent~~
~~diseases nature is appalled, or like a drun-~~
~~ken man in a dark room reels to and~~
~~fo without being able to discover either~~
~~window or door, or if by accident, he~~
~~reaches one of them, he stumbles against~~
~~it with so much force, and as to break~~
~~both it, and his neck together.~~ ✓

The remarks that have been delivered
upon the publness and Obligity of the operations
of nature will receive ~~near~~ fresh support when
we examine those of a part of the
whole creation. Here we behold in many ~~the~~ cases disease & death
to be nearly synonymous. The bilious fever,
wounds, and even the Catheral so generally

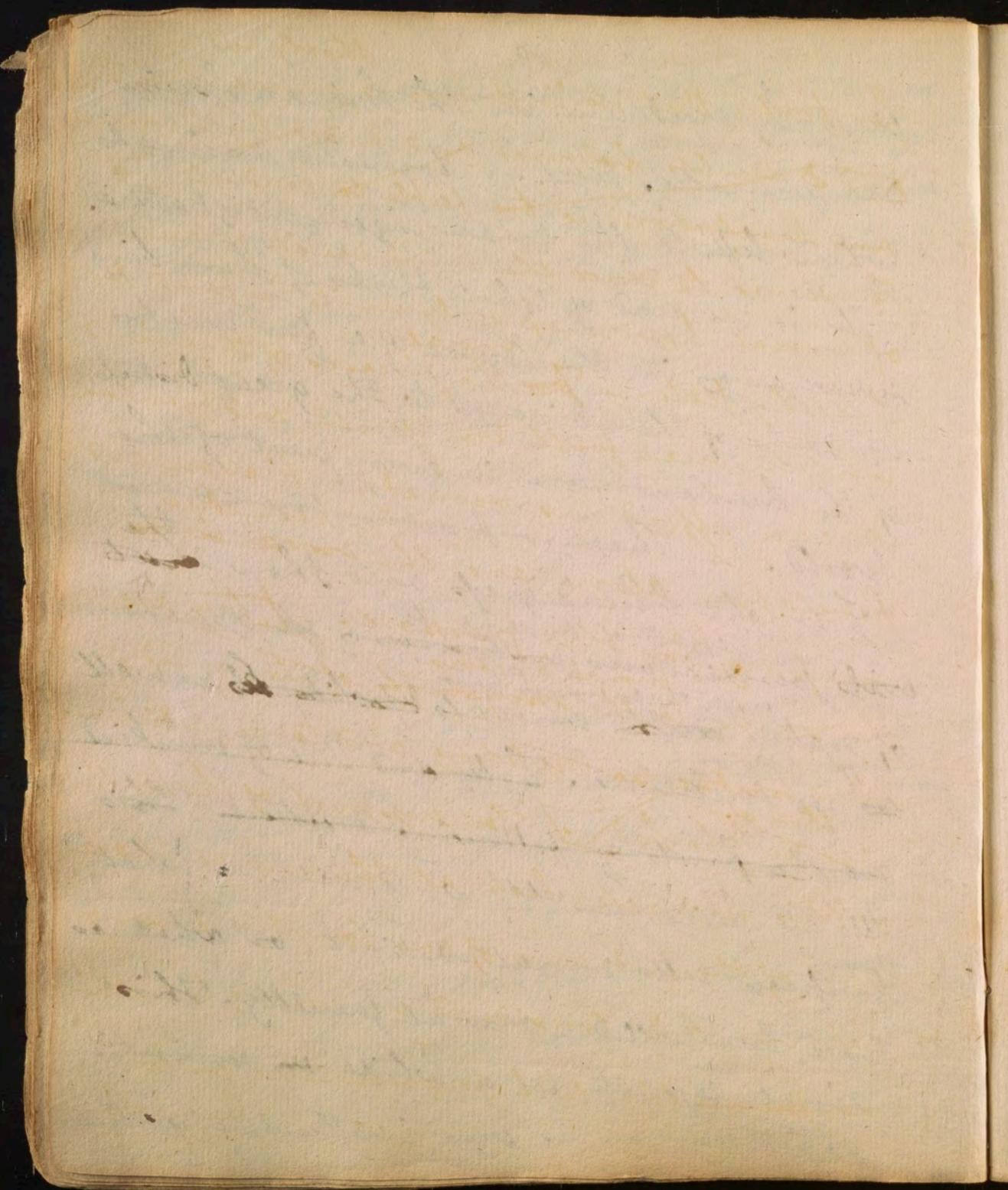
Gentlemen is no exaggerated picture. Be not
alarmed at it. In thus tearing the fringe
from the garment of our Science, ~~I hope~~
~~I shall~~ I have not injure that garment, but
hope to surrender it up to you in a
nearer and more durable form than that
which it has ~~derived~~ ^{acquired} from the idolatry of
our Ancestors in medicine.

~~The grade of force which in the operations
of nature in the diseases of both men &
beasts which not only tends to health but
produces it. This I shall call ^{it} the ^{most} ~~best~~
healing point or level
of her Operations. It is of the same grade as
a remedy with
as sleep which I said in our Physiology
and light indispositions only, but ~~was~~ is
prazine or hurtful in violent diseases.~~

cured by medicine in the human species,
are generally fatal in domestic animals
when left to the management of nature.

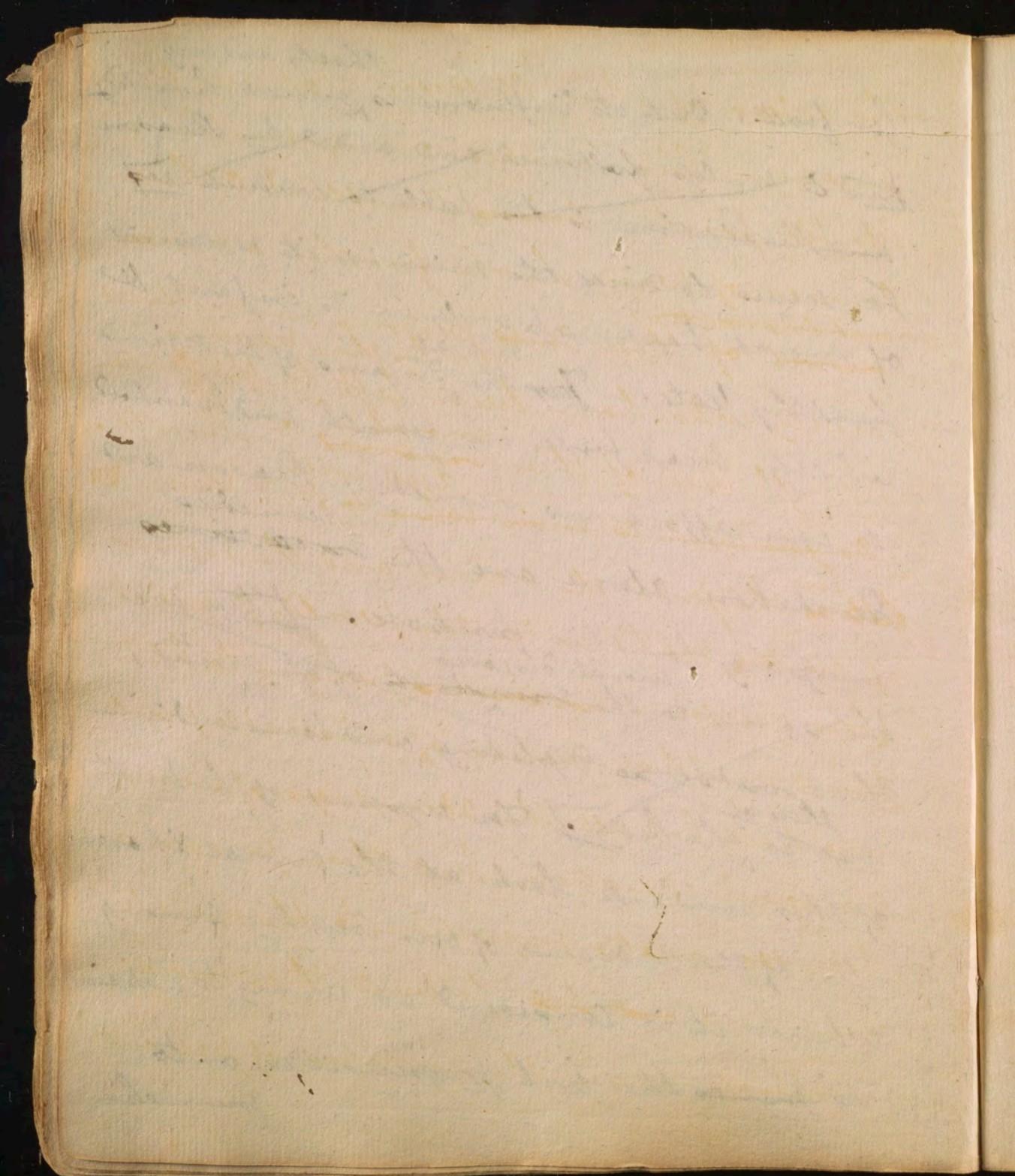
- Hence we read of whole flocks of them being
swept away in the course of a few weeks
by some of these diseases to the great distress
of the husbandman in every part of the
world. - ~~There is I acknowledge certain~~

I might here digress and show ~~the~~
~~effects of trusting to~~
~~wis~~^{upon the mind, or upon}
of nature ~~and~~ⁱⁿ morals ~~as well~~
~~upon the body, or~~
~~as in~~ⁱⁿ medicine. Solly and Vice of every kind
~~are the fruits of following nature~~ This
we all bring into the world with us what
Krieger calls "moral instinct", or what has
since been called a moral faculty. This
innate capacity for a while ~~en~~ serves the
same purpose as our instinctive appetites



11

short, and very
for good. But its influence is much limited,
~~and so easily followed and aided by Reason~~
~~and Revelation is too feeble to conduct us~~
It serves to direct the mind in its pursuit
of moral happiness only in its infant &
healthy state. — ^{moral} For the ^{diseases} of the mind
which break forth in youth and manhood,
it can afford no remedy. Reason and
Revelation alone are the ~~remedies~~
necessary for this purpose. — ^{they are}
~~the same to the mind as of the mind,~~
~~that ~~body~~ are ^{those of} depleting and tonic medicines~~
~~are to the body.~~ For support of the truth
of this remark, look at the moral charac-
-ter of the Indians of our country among
whom it is considered as wrong to restrain
or punish the evil propensities, or to
punish



the vices of their ¹² children, lest they should
weaken their courage, and render them
less fit for the ~~Crimes~~ ^{Corrects} & other
Crimes of War. Look further at the
~~moral character~~
~~conduct of those child~~ persons in civilized
Society who have been left ^{by their parents} to the solita-
-ry influence of their ^{moral} ~~natural~~ instincts.
~~Do you wish to know where to find them?~~
in fitting the jails, the navies and the armies
of all the nations in the world. I grant
there are some ~~bastard~~ persons to be
found in those crowds of miserable people
who have had all the advantages of a moral
& religious education, but those persons
bear no greater proportion to the number
who have ~~not~~ followed their moral
instincts, than the number of patients

V the analogy between the physical remedies
for the diseases of our bodies, and the moral remedies
for the diseases of our minds. The opera-
tions of nature in ^{during} diseases, accord with
the feeble operations of moral instinct.
~~in overcoming the feeble vices and follies~~
~~of infancy and childhood.~~ The remedies of
Abstinence ^{and} & sweating, ^{with} accord to
the operations of reason; - while the more
~~energetic~~ ^{powerful} ~~and laudable~~ remedies of blushing
vomits - purges - emury - bark - tea -
= by heat & wine accord with the ^{in curing the disorders}
extensive influence of Religious ^{reform}
of the mind.

who die of violent fevers in the hands of
skillful physicians, bear to the number of
those who are committed to the hands of nature.

I grant further, that we sometimes see great
perfection of moral character in persons
who have had no other tutor than moral in-
struction to direct them, but the number

of these persons is comparatively as
small as ~~that~~^{the number of} those who recover of
violent fevers which left ~~whole~~^{nothing} to
wholly in the hands of
nature, and without the aid of medi-
cine. — It is agreeable thus to discover

from the effects I might go on, and
illustrate my opinions of nature in medicine,
effects of following ^{her} ~~nature~~, not only in
individuals, but in public bodies: all the
calamities and distresses of war & bad govern-
ment,

~~✓ In one place we behold debility, paucy,
& mortification from the pressure of taxes,
- in another we behold those taxes produc-
- ing plentaria - hemorrhages - and apoplexy.~~

✓ Call them by what name you will -
whether kings or usurpers - tycoons, or
tyrants - they are ^{all} like the physicians of
the Hippocratic school "nature ministri", that
is, the servants of nature.

I return from these ^{analogies} illustrations of
ourselves the destructive effects of following
nature in morals & government, to speak
of them in medicine, and here I shall
only add one as the natural consequence of

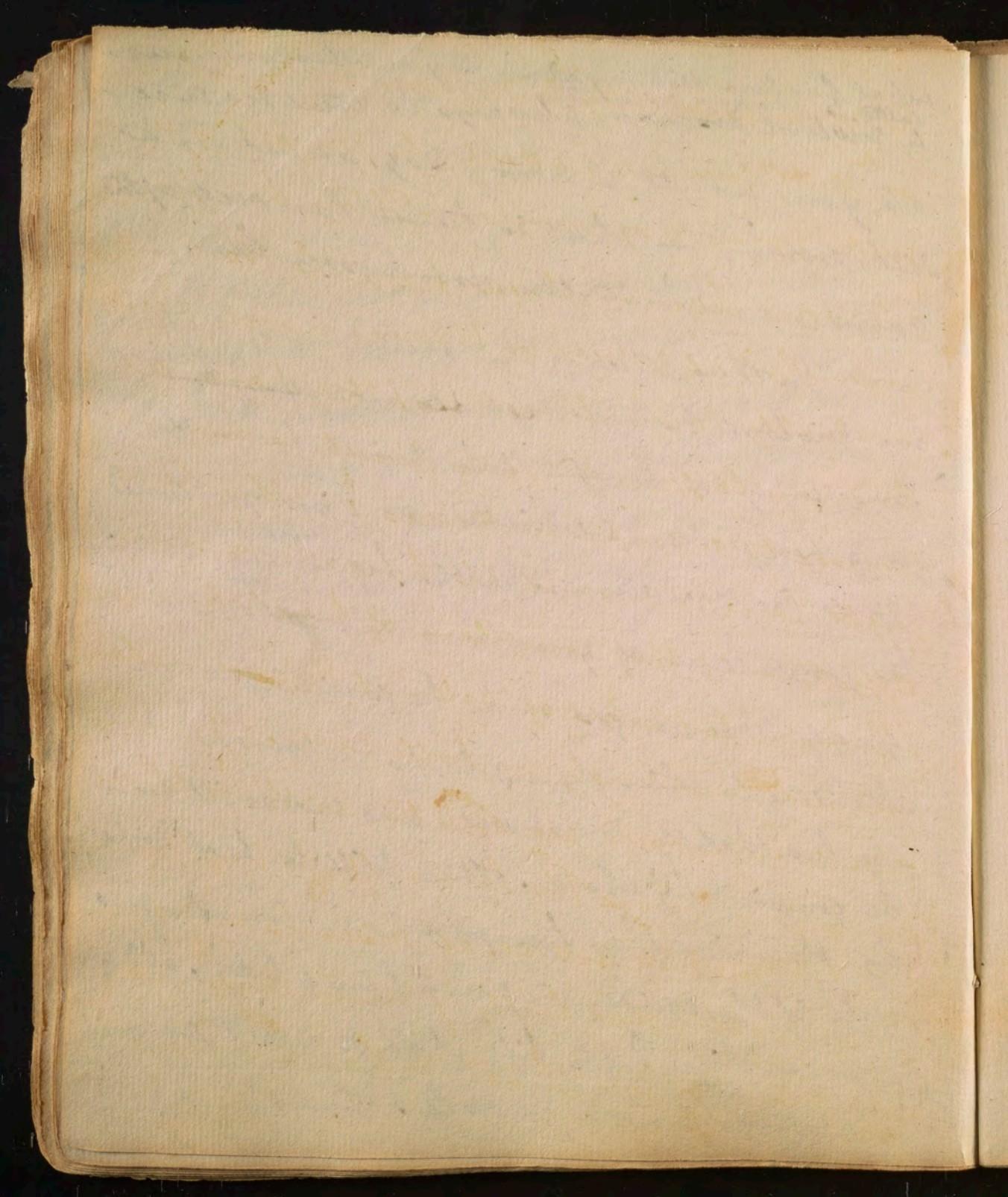
that have ever existed in our world, are the
 effects of the ~~to~~^{the} rulers of nations, following
 nature. They are all in ~~the~~^{that} ~~exact~~^{which} place of the
~~human body~~^{body} ~~which I have said takes place in the~~
~~diseases, which has been described.~~^{human body in violent diseases.}

Faculty of their minds is ~~is not~~ thrown out
 of its place, or suddenly and obliquely ex-
 cited. All their actions compared with a
 Standard of moral order, are deranged,^{on to}
~~use~~ the words of an inspired writer, ~~that~~
~~in speaking of the ingratitude of the nations~~
~~who thus commit the crimes that have~~
~~been mentioned are "drunk"; that is, they~~
~~act like drunken even under the influence~~
~~of moral instinct or to return to~~
~~the operations the subject of our lecture,~~
~~they act like creatures in a violent~~

V But there are no cases in which it is
proper to follow nature, and there
~~but~~ ~~there~~ are no advantages to be
derived from a knowledge of ~~the~~ operations
of nature in diseases ~~in~~ in any case?
Yes there are. I shall briefly mention them.

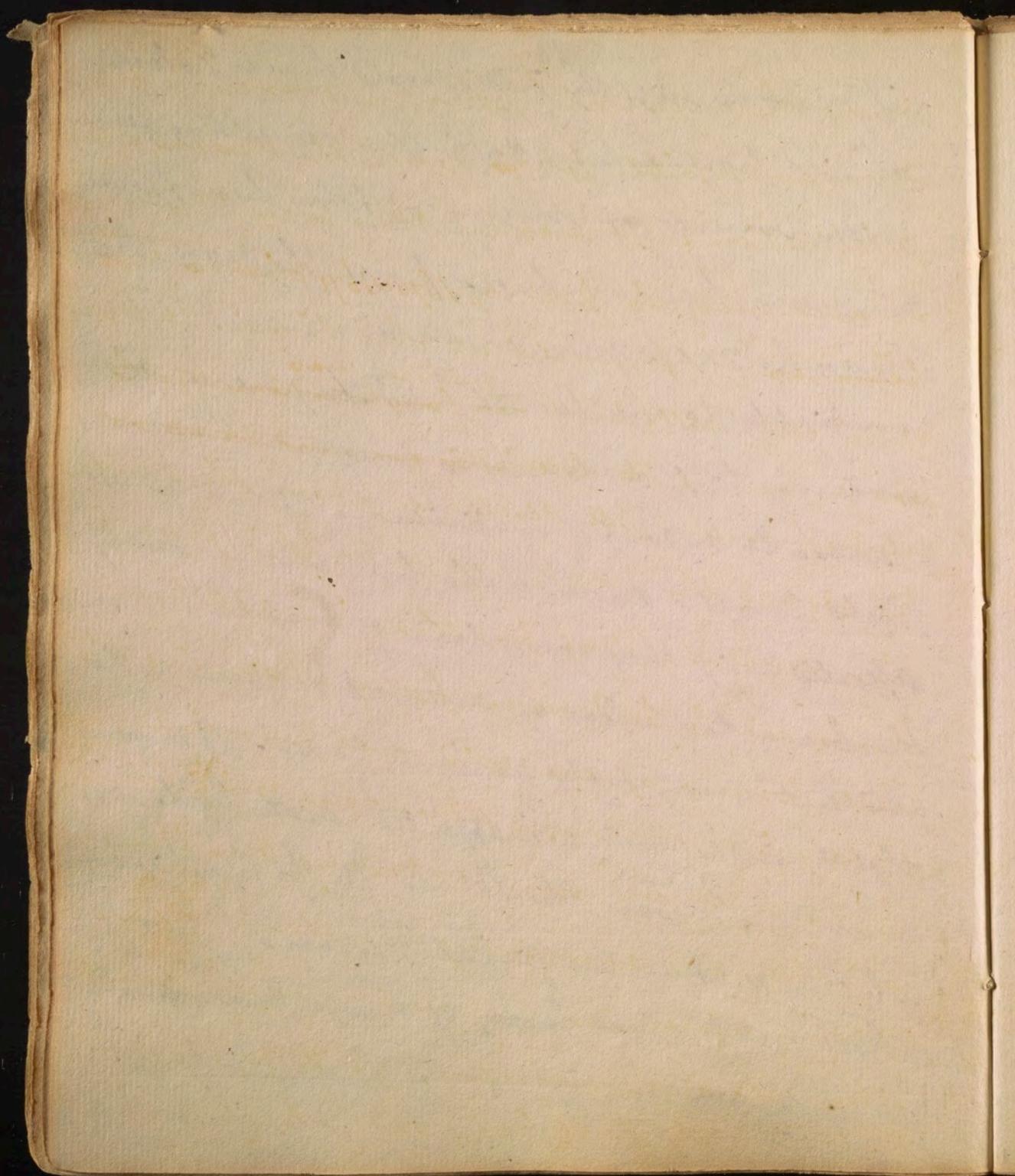
what has been said my advice to you whenever you are
called to persons ill with ¹⁵ violent disease, always to treat nature
as you would a noisy dog, or cat in a
sick room, — that is, turn her out of the
room — and shut the door upon her. —

~~Do thus rejecting the operations of nature
in violent diseases, let us not deny ourselves
ourselves of the benefit to be derived from observ-
ing her feeble — ill directed — or disproportioned
efforts in medicine. In the beginning, or during
the prevalence of great and mortal epidemics,
great advantages may be derived from
attending to their symptoms in persons who
are but slightly indisposed, and not so ill as to
be confined by them. This will be best done
by observing those symptoms in country peo-
ple if the epidemic prevail in a city, and in
persons in high life, if it prevail among
the common people. For example,~~



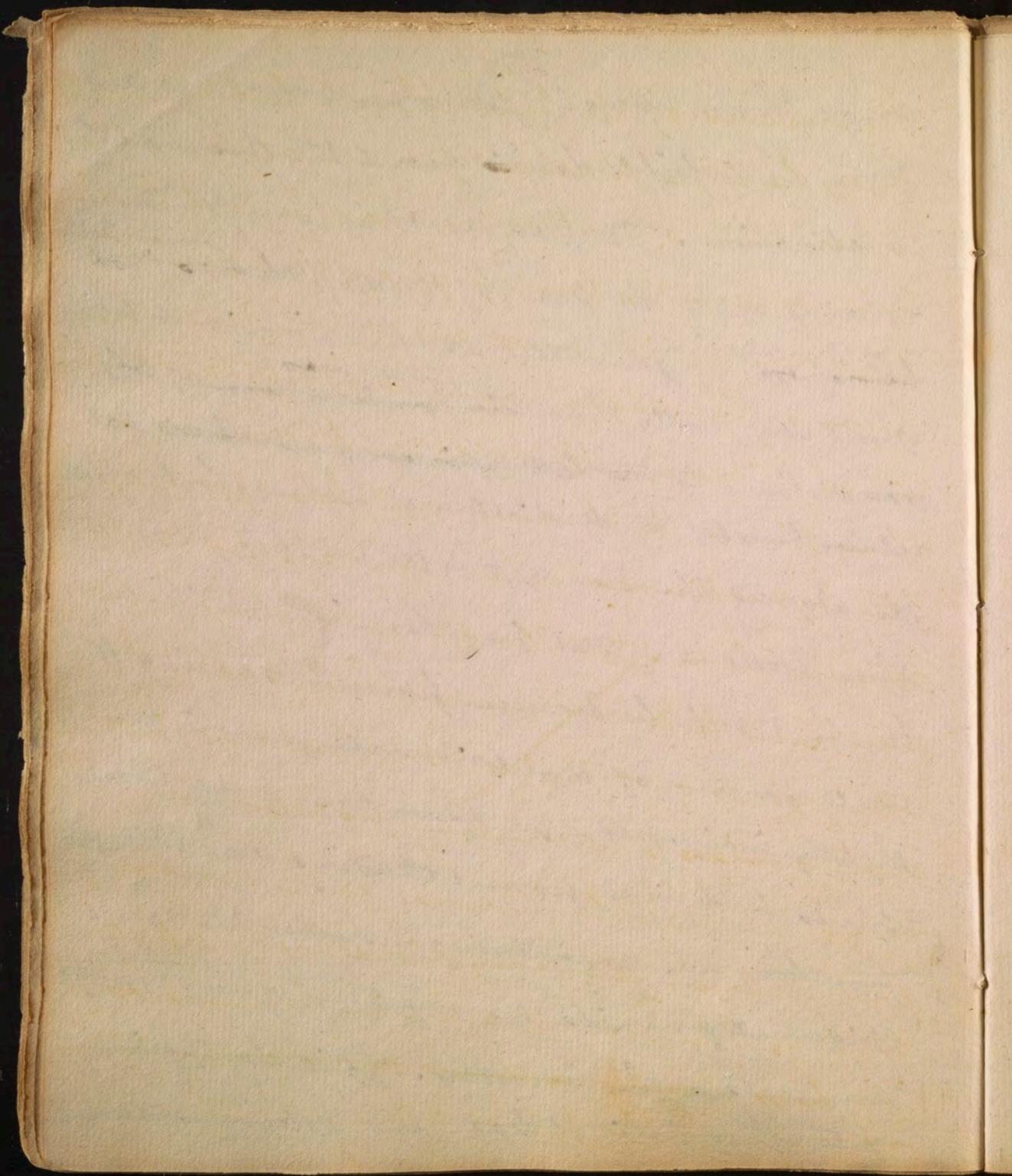
16

if persons slightly indisposed have colic,
or a sick stomach, attack the prevailing fever
with emetics or purges - If they have sponta-
neous hemorrhages from the nose, ha-
emorrhoidal vessels, or uterus, resort im-
mediately to the lancet - If they have a
tendency to spontaneous sweats - have re-
course to sudorific medicines, - If they have
light coughs suspect the lungs to be deeply
affected - if they complain of head Ach - suspect
the brain to the seat of arterial determination
and act accordingly in both cases. If persons
slightly indisposed are affected with eruptions
eruptions upon the skin, fly to applications
which produce artificial diseases upon
those parts, and lastly if such persons
complain of sore throat, & hawking & spit

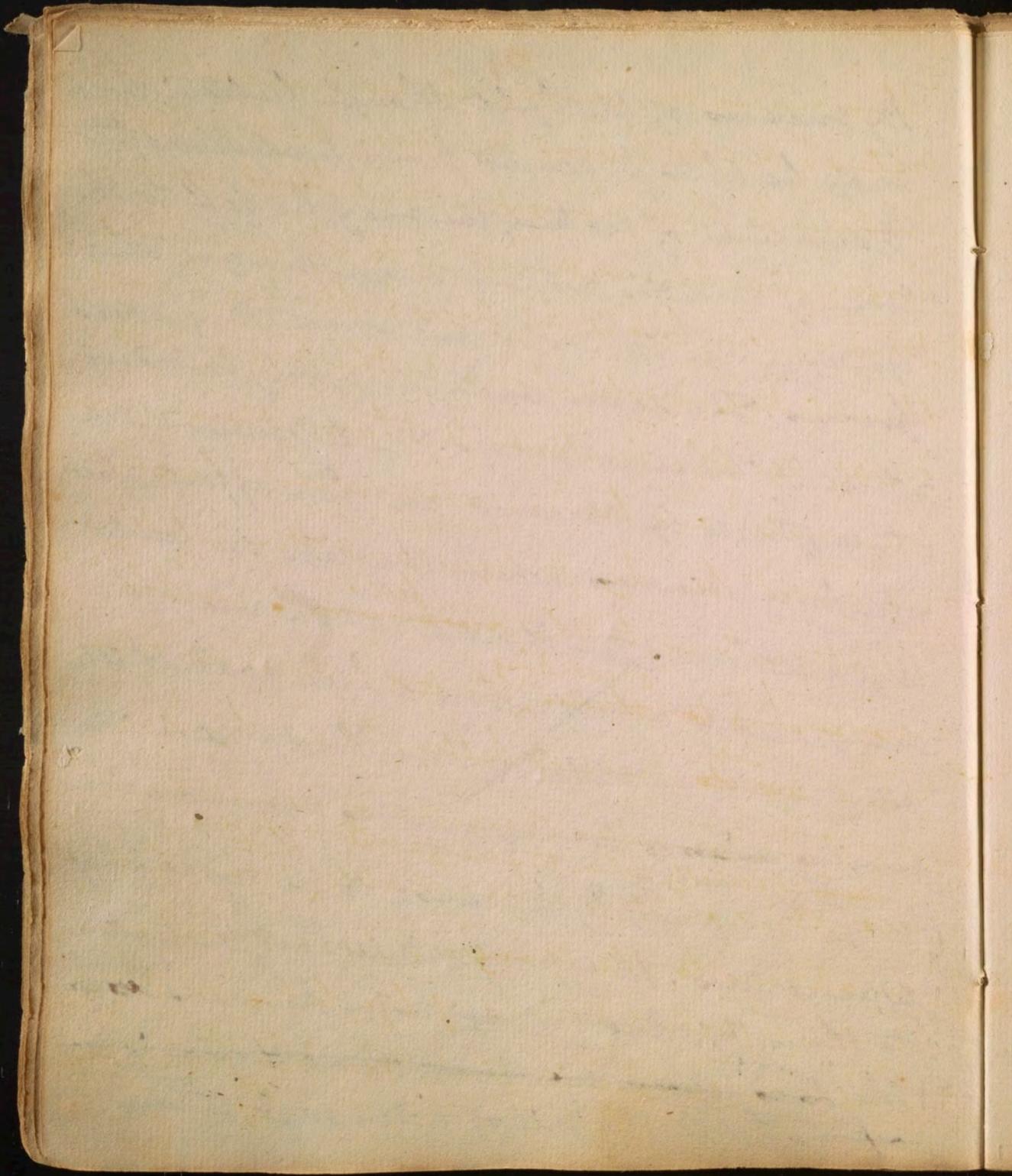


17

more than usual, pour in mercury as soon as possible to expel the disease by a salivation. It was in this way Dr Hyden = had met the fever of 1670 & 1671 ~~that has just~~ or number of dysenteries prevailed at this time. He supposed very justly that the ~~constitution~~ ^{nature was} disposed to the latter disease and that too relieve himself by a discharge from the bowels. He adopted the use of purges in this fever & thus cured it. But further - in addition to the aids to be drawn from observing the mild forms of an epidemic fever in persons slightly indisposed, an advantage may sometimes be derived from extending our views further, and examining whether the same epidemic prevails among any of the domestic animals of the country. If it do, inquire into its principal seat, and determinations.



By means of the light though feeble, which
 may be thus obtained from watching the
 operations of nature, we may be led to the
 use of remedies which may vanquish an
 epidemic in its worst and most dangerous
 forms. The same remarks apply to indi-
 - dual & chronic diseases. The tendencies of na-
 - ture should be observed, and her efforts ap-
 - plied by medicines when they are too feeble
 to cure them. ~~The short-natured may be~~
 compared to a post upon a high road which
 often points out the way we should go, without
 moving ~~steps~~ to accompany us upon our jour-
 - ney. They apply likewise to the diseases of
 different ages. In infancy & childhood, the instinct
 to throw plumbum and offensive humors ~~behind~~
~~the ears;~~ ~~then we should thrust them if possi-~~
~~ble~~ Should she fail of doing so, & throw



them upon the brain¹⁹, let us divert them to
nature; but let behind the cars. In youth she
inclines to throw her redundant blood upon the
lungs. Then let us divert it to the external
part of the breast by cups & blisters - and by
stimulating Applications to the arm pits.
In old age she inclines to throw discoloration
the bowels, and lower extremities - here let
us assist her by purges, and stimulating
Applications to the abdomen. By thus
appressing too ^{seconding} flattening ^{the} ~~the~~ ^{we} tendencies of na-
ture ~~to~~ succeed better, than by opposing
her by a counter current of revulsive
remedies - It is remarkable ^{that} something
analogous to the changes I have mentioned
in the different periods of life, take place in
pregnancy. In its first stage the fluids are

V nature in all these cases resembles in
a certain degree a post upon a high road
which points to the way we ~~do~~ wish to go,
without moving to accompany us upon
our journey -

~~This is however~~

determined to the stomach & head, - in the
second to the ^{lungs & gut} bowels - and in its last, when
the system partakes most of weakness, to the
lower extremities in which they discover them
selves by pain and Odematous swellings.

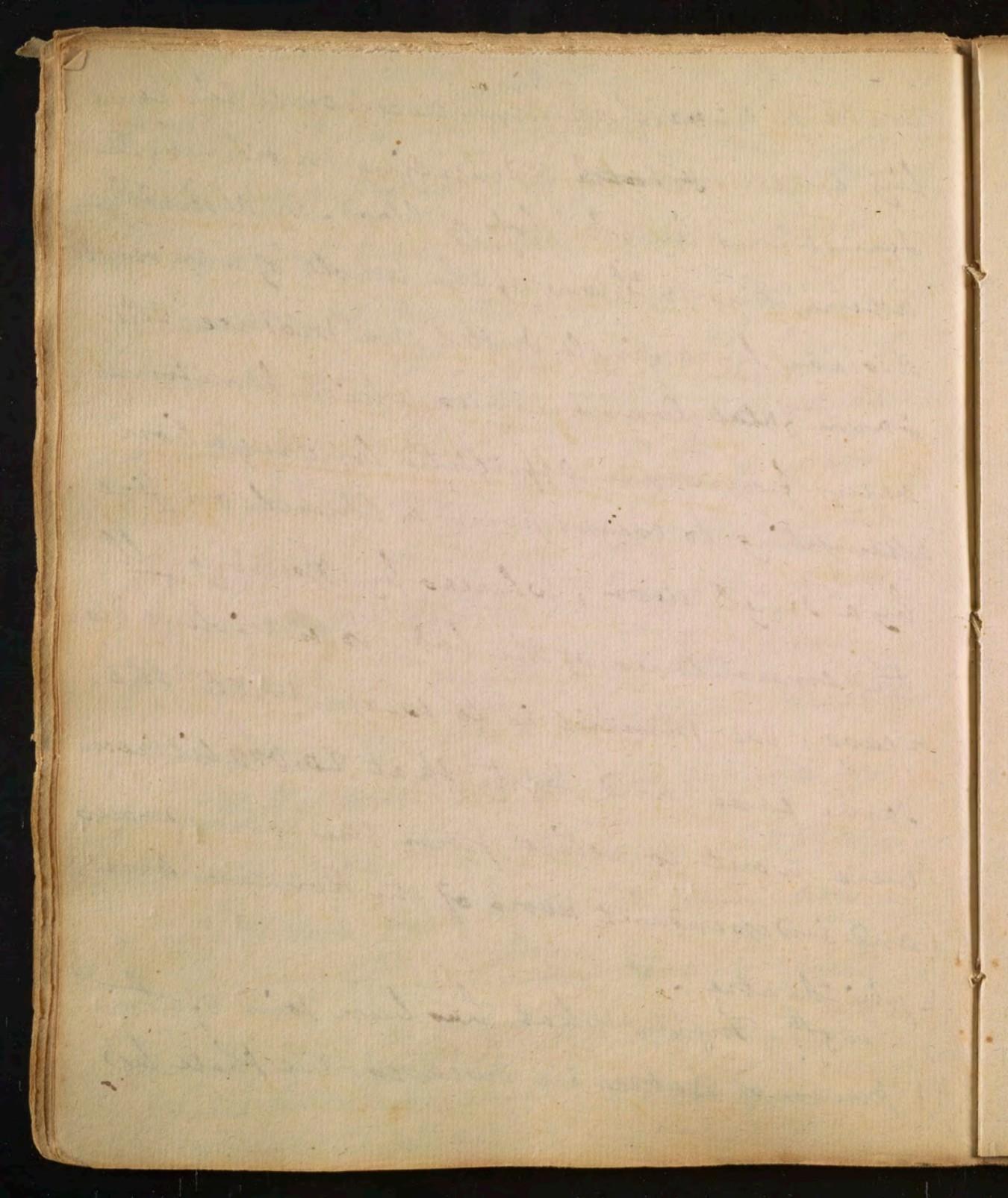
2^o: In observing a disposition in nature to
throw off a mild disease by a single outlet, let us
beware how we rely upon ^{that} single outlet in
such diseases as are violent. It has been said,
that by opening any other emmunity besides
that to which nature has pointed, we
thwart her salutary operations & thus pre-
-vent, or retard a cure. But this is not true,
and is contradicted daily by the successful prac-
-tice of physicians of every sect in medicine.
In a tendency to sweat, ~~we~~ in a physician,
we bleed and purge without exposing a salutary
discharge by the pores. In a fever attended

✓ The predilection of Physicians to one
draught for a disease, or for ~~a uniform~~^{one mode}
of depletion has arisen from their
ignorance of depletion being a Unit. They
resemble in this ignorance the servant
of a master who complained that he
had lost a portion of a ~~large~~^{cauldron} of wine
by a spile which he discovered in the
lower part of the cauldron. "Hold master said
he, don't you see the wine has been
stolen from the ~~upper~~^{upper} & not from the lower
part of the cauldron". Do not suppose by
this remark that I consider it a matter
of indifference for a Deplete from any
one emunctory. ~~many~~^{some} diseases yield
only to one class of depleting remedies.
Some to two or more, while some
require them all ✓ =

24

With a diarrhoea, we accelerate the cure by emetics & sweating medicines, & sometimes by the loss of blood. By absurdly attempting to throw off the whole of a violent disease by a single outlet, we produce the same fatal consequences which sometimes occur from an affrighted congregation attempting to escape from a church on fire by a single door, whereas by opening all the emmunities of the body to a violent disease, we permit it to escape with the same ease and safety that 20,000 citizens were wont to retire from the numerous and independant doors of the Roman amphitheatre.

5th: From what has been said of the power of nature in diseases, we shall be



able to answer the next question that occurs
in order and that is how far the longings of
sick people should be indulged for ~~drinks~~
~~drinks~~ - ~~air and exercise.~~ It must
- be in a state of derangement in a violent
disease, & if the ~~feats~~ of thirst & hunger are
liable to partake of the delirium of other
~~parts~~ parts of the body, the inclinations of
nature alone should not govern us in
complying with them. Many thousand sick
people have been destroyed either without, or
with the consent of a physician by this
practice. I admit that now and then cures
have been performed by yielding to the cravings
of nature, but this has been only in those
cases in which the article taken has aw-
=ded exactly with the state of the system. This

In second grade of ~~any~~ disease it has been useful,
but in the Highest, and the lowest, it has
frequently been hurtful. In every case therefore
when nature sends forth her desires for
drinks, food, or exercise, we should comply
with, or refuse them according to the state
of the system at the time they are desired.

I shall now deliver a few rules for
the exhibition of medicines, but I shall
first take notice, that all

Having done

In the cure of ~~all~~ diseases that things
~~done~~ it will be necessary for a physician in
all his prescriptions ^{to} constantly to keep his eye upon three things
viz: predisposition - the disease itself, and
lastly its symptoms. in all his prescriptions
It is the misfortune of medicine that they
often separated, by which means much diffi-
-culty is done in the practice of physic ^{for}

23

a draught of cold taken in the intermediate
grade of fever has often induced a salutary
sweat. ^{Had} The same draught if it had been taken two
~~days sooner or later~~ in a more excited, or
a more debilitated state of the system, it would
have done harm. In like manner a slice of
liver, ^{or} a beefsteak has sometimes turned
the scale in favor of life in a low fever, but
it has only been when the fever has
descended to the lowest grade of typhus, and
after all ~~other~~ the common medical stimulants
had lost their effect. Had they been taken sooner,
~~Had it been taken sooner~~ ^{they} it would probably
have destroyed life. The rule then by which
~~we should be governed~~ ~~is~~ ~~is~~ in yielding to
~~its indications~~ Again - we sometimes see
persons cured by ~~and~~ indulging a desire
for fresh air, by a ride, or a walk. In the V

will illustrate what I mean by several examples.
Thus by giving tonic medicines for an inflam^d fever because the patient has laboured under the nervous predisposition, we increase both the fever and its symptoms - again by giving & using depleting remedies in an inflam^d fever without a regard to the predisposition, or of its symptoms we often deplete too much or too little,

or we suffer the symptoms to destroy life + lastly by prescribing for symptoms only without a regard to the predisposition or the disease itself, we suffer the patient to perish, while he suffers from the relief we give to his symptoms that he is upon the recovery. Opiates to ease a pain in the side in the plunsey have often had this effect. See also (a)

+ the cough in a plunsey & the ~~fever~~^{and the vomiting} in the yellow fever, and the pain in the tongue in yellow fever, and the pain in the side when not relieved, by often produce death by their reaction upon the ~~vital~~ ^{of which they are symptoms} disease, or upon the whole system.

(a) I shall now deliver a few rules for the exhibition of medicines; but I shall first take notice that all = p: 24

All medicines ~~of~~^{which} may be divided into the following Classes. 1 such as are contrary to our natural tastes and appetites, which are not easily changed by the powers of the system, and which induce ^{weaker or stronger} actions either natural, or less morbid, and dangerous, in a diseased body. They offensive qualities which reside in this class of medicines seem to have been wisely & kindly implanted in them by the Author of Nature in order to prevent our using them ^{in health} as articles of diet, or condiments to our food, and thereby preventing their efficacy in sickness. They may all be considered as quick or slow poisons of different grades from arsenic & opium down to erith & camomile tea.

2 such as are natural & agreeable to the taste & appetite, but which act by destroying quick, or slow poisons commonly called venemous in the human body. These are oils, acids, diluting, and demulcent drinks. Alkalies which act in this way are an exception to the general nature of this division.

3 such as ~~not~~ are agreeable to the taste &

V of them, fords Ye will therefore do
more to our Science
^{great Services} who upon good grounds
destroys the credit of such medicines, and
thus expels them from the ^{Medicina} _r Materia, as
he will who discovers a new Medicine.
Perhaps the Author has dropped upon all
attempts to enlarge the bounds of Medicine
long in this way, and that all improvements
in the ^{medicinal} Materia Medicina will consist
hereafter in discovering the Doses - propa-

appetite, and act by ^{upright &} increasing and exciting
morbid and natural actions by their nutritious
or sedative qualities. These are ^{our common} ^{and drink} ^{aliments,}
^{of all}
^{kinds}

such as act both agreeably & disagreeably upon the
body in ~~exciting~~ ^{upright &} increasing & decreasing its morbid
& natural actions. These are ^{as} warm & cool &
cold air - ^{cold & warm} water - ~~warm & cold~~ and ill-exercised
labor.

In the use of the medicines of the first class there
has been the same luxury that there has been
in other things. Our systems of medicine have added
very much to this number by requiring a differ-
ent medicine for every disease, and a variety of
medicines for the same disease without a due
regard to the different states of the system. The
unity of disease has swept away many bur-
dened articles of the material medical from our
shops. This number has been still further re-
duced by the new sources of medicine in diet -
warm & cool air, cold water & exercise. But
there is room for a still greater diminution ^v

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for fresh Air, by a ride or a walk. In the second grade of Disease it has been useful, but in the highest and lowest, it has frequently been hurtful. In every case therefore where nature ^{tends} forth her ^{desires} for food & drink - food or exercise, we should ~~yourself~~ ^{the state of the} ~~ourselves~~ ^{by the same system,} ~~either~~ ⁱⁿ comply with, or refuse them, without ~~the best regard to~~ attending to the ^{written} ~~any more~~ State of the System at the time they are desired.

I shall now deliver a few rules for the exhibition of medicines, ^{but I shall first take notice} ~~and here I shall begin~~ I select but few medicines by remarking that the ^{cool} resources of medicine for fresh Air - cool & cold water - exercise - and diet. have greatly and considerably lessened the articles of the ~~malitia exrica~~ ^{now in use in our shops.}

& a few ~~poor~~ medicines selected in the manner
I have mentioned, we shall become better ac-
= quainted with their virtues and doses. ^{It was} ~~and used to~~
~~were~~ customary formerly to keep patients
constantly under the use of two or three medicines
and sometimes more at a time prepared in the forms
of Juleps, pills, balsams and plasters. This should be
avoided as much as possible. A painter once wrote
upon a picture in which too many figures were con-
= ciled: "Figures to be let." Upon a table in
a sick room crowded
with bottles, boxes, and gallipots it would be equally
proper to write "medicines, and those furniture to
be sold here" — This practice originated in a desire
to remove the different symptoms of a disease by

of the
 Let that small number of medicines to which
 our ~~medicinal~~ materia medica has been reduced,
 let them in the place
~~be selected in the following manner.~~ That
 consist of all those medicines which have
 been called heroic or energetic, ^{2dly} up a
 equal number of such of are of a ^{more} feeble
 nature descending gradually down to teas
 made of our common ^{and 3dly} domestic herbs. The
~~whole number of~~ there three or
 four of the same class so as to suit the variety
 of constitutions, and to admit of rotation
 when the system becomes ^{insensible from habit} ~~habituated to~~
 any one of them. By confining ourselves to
 2 medicines are given in a simple & a com-
 pound state. Upon this subject there have been
 two opinions; the one is that medicines act best
~~in~~ ⁱⁿ India when given singly, the other is that
 they do most good when combined with each

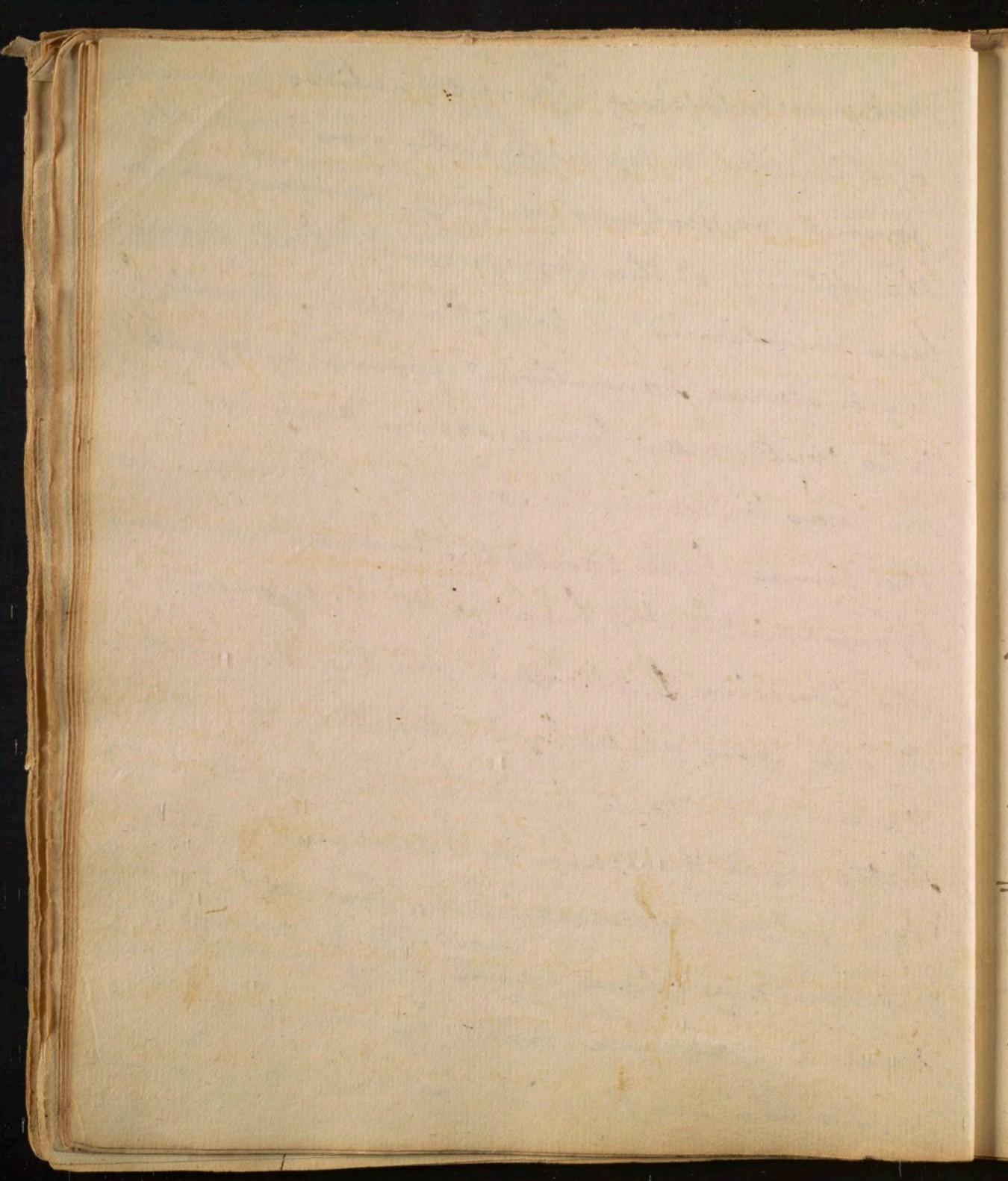
different remedies, without recollecting that they all originated in one cause, and that by removing that cause, the symptoms would cease, with the exception of those few cases in which the palliatives of Opium, and demulcents are necessary medicines in the hands of different physicians may be compared to the Roman Alphabet, and Chinese Characters. The former by being combined in an immense Variety of ways, are made to express all the words in our language, so the same medicines by being differently prepared, or exhibited at different times may seem to cure all the diseases that are subject to Medicines, while the latter by requiring a specific character for every word, resembles the practice of prescribing a different medicine for every disease, and every symptom of a disease, and hence we find there is the same disproportion between the remedies of a physician who prescribes a different medicine for the name & symptoms of a disease, and a physician who

Other. Both opinions are true. Many of them particularly Bark, Opium, Rhubarb, Jalap, Saff Castor Oil, Wine and Ammonia act powerfully when given without any mixture, but it is certain many other medicines are improved by being compounded. Dr Akenside cured several Cancers by a mixture of Corrosive Sublimate and Hemlock which had resisted the Hemlock alone. ~~while I was a student in~~
~~the College of Edin^r~~ with an Alcali has cured tetanus Dr Stultz tells us after it has resisted the use of Opium in a simple state. While I was a Student in the College of Edin^r an obstinate head ache in the Infirmary of that city which ~~had been~~ Bark & Valerian in suc-
- ception & rotation had been given without effect, was cured in a few days by a mixture of both those Medicines. In this case a

prescribes for the Unity of Disease, and the state
of the System that there is between the number
of the Chinese Characters & the Roman Alphabet.
The former amount to 80,000, the latter to but
four and twenty. return to p: 25.

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medicine possessing different qualities from each
of them in a separate state was probably
formed, or perhaps we may ~~account~~ ^{account} for
the efficacy of the compounds that have
been mentioned in another way. Recall
the instance I mentioned formerly of a lady
who could hear conversation only when
she was within the sound of a Drum. As
the drum has excited the ~~lymph~~ Membrana
tympani to the hearing point, so may not
the Corrosive Sublimate, or the Hemlock,-
in the cases related by Dr Akinside, and the
Opium or Alcali in the case related by Dr
Shatto, and the Bark or Valerian in the
case which occurred in the ~~London~~ Edin^r
Infirmary, have excited the ^{sensibility & irritability of the} stomach in
such a manner, as to dispose it to act
under the impression of but one of the



two medicines that were taken. Take either of the two theories I have delivered you ~~less~~ please. Perhaps both of them may be true. It is certain sugar & other sweet substances enable the stomach to retain medicines that would otherwise be rejected. The sugar in this case acts upon the tongue ~~and~~ where it excites a pleasurable sensation, which predominates over the ~~disagreeable~~^{disagreeable} impression of the medicine. I mentioned formerly that a weak pleasure overcomes in many instances a stronger pain - probably by the susceptibility of the system being ^{so much} worn down by pain as to feel in an instant the new impression of pleasure. Dr Clark has illustrated the propriety of combining active, and nauseous medicines with sugar, or other sweet, or mild substances.

V when combined with a weak one - This
is noticed by Dr Sydenham. Perhaps this
remark applies to all the active stimulating
remedies. But to return

This opinion is founded upon ~~specie~~
~~or~~ ^{certain} ~~and~~ medicines such that
medicines acting as I shall say hereafter ~~upon~~
specifically upon different systems,

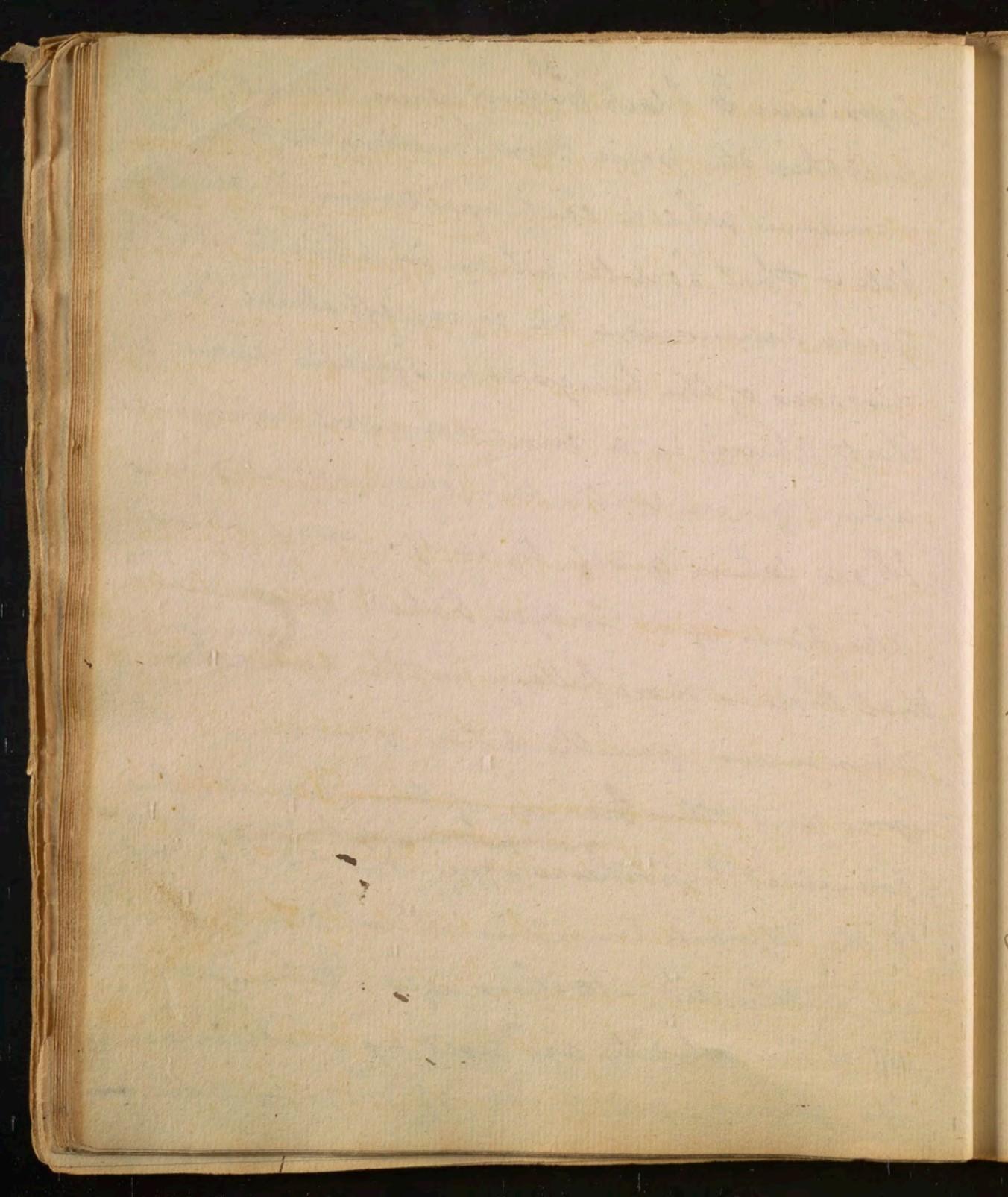
to enable the Stomach & System to bear them
in the following words. "Some medicines re-
quire their Companions. They are not to be
trusted alone. They are Strangers & enemies to
the body, and they require their guides and
guards." — a strong purge operates more certainly

Dr. Hordye who is an advocate for the
composition of medicines enforces this rule
in this form by the Analogy of the Stomach
which retains and digests certain Aliments
most easily when they are combined with
a number of Spices. There can be doubt
but that some medicines ^{act more powerfully,}
~~and do less ^{more easily} injury~~
^{if mixed} in a compound, than
in a simple state. But the knowledge of their
relations to each other can only be known by
experience. Dr. Hordye says he has found several
of the bitters to assist the Stomach in retaining
the Bark — that the Sulphate of Lime added to
the emetic qualities of Ipecacuanha, that

~~Laward if honest~~

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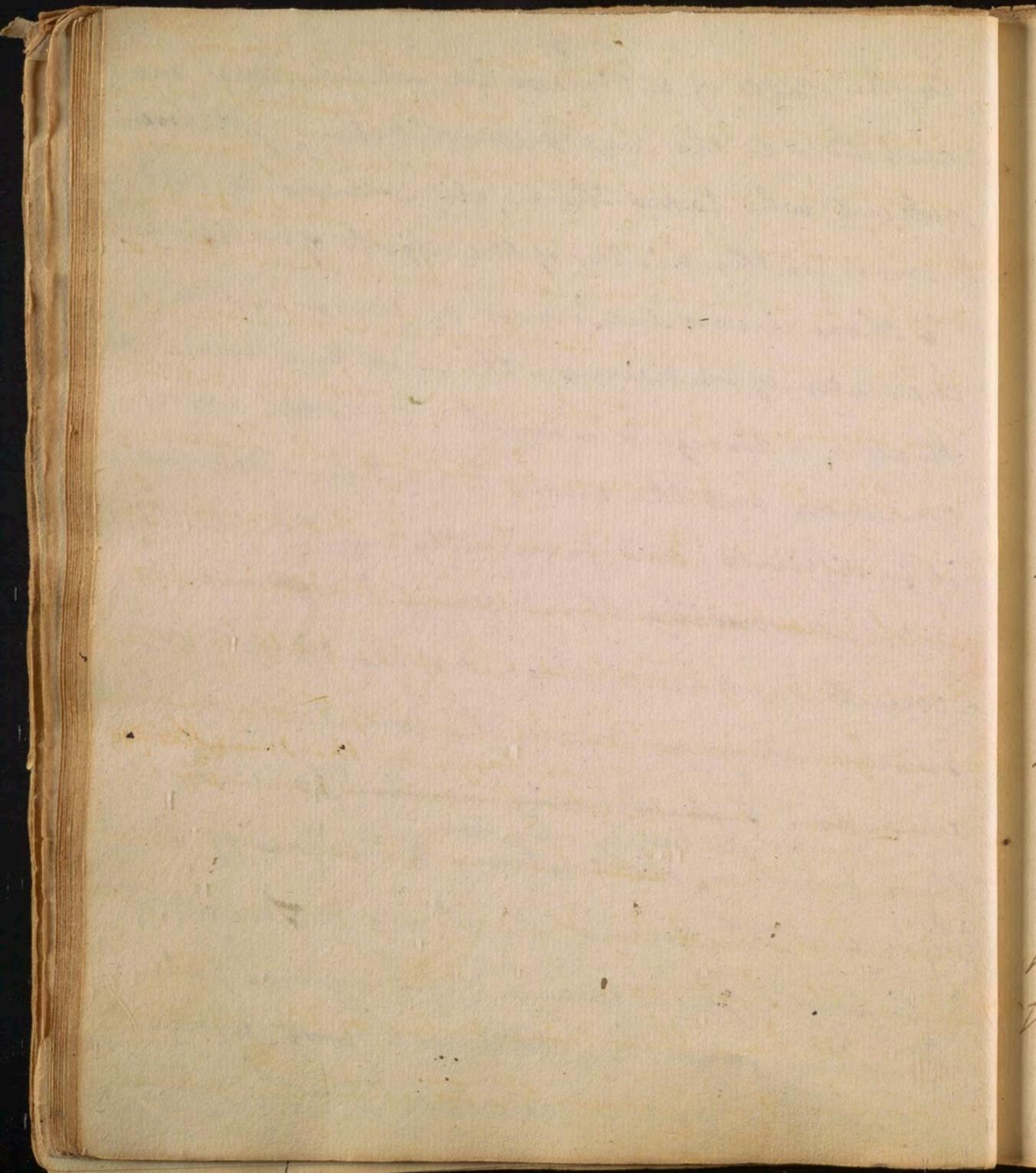
Capsicum & black pepper when mixed, excite neither the pain, nor burning in the stomach which each excites in its simple state - that Sgrills when combined with Green Ammoniac are more effectual in the disorders of the lungs than Sgrills alone, & that Abur is a more powerful Astringent when given with the powder of red Rose than when given by itself. Upon these assertions of Dr. Fordyce I shall only remark that there is more fallacy in the ~~Opinions~~ ^{Opinions} of physicians upon the action of medicines than upon any other branch of our Science. Pre-conceived hypotheses - ~~alone~~ ^{alone} of the marvelous - a disregard to the different countries in which medicines are cultivated - to their ages, to the parts of them which are used as medicines, - to the forms, and modes of ^{their} Preparation.



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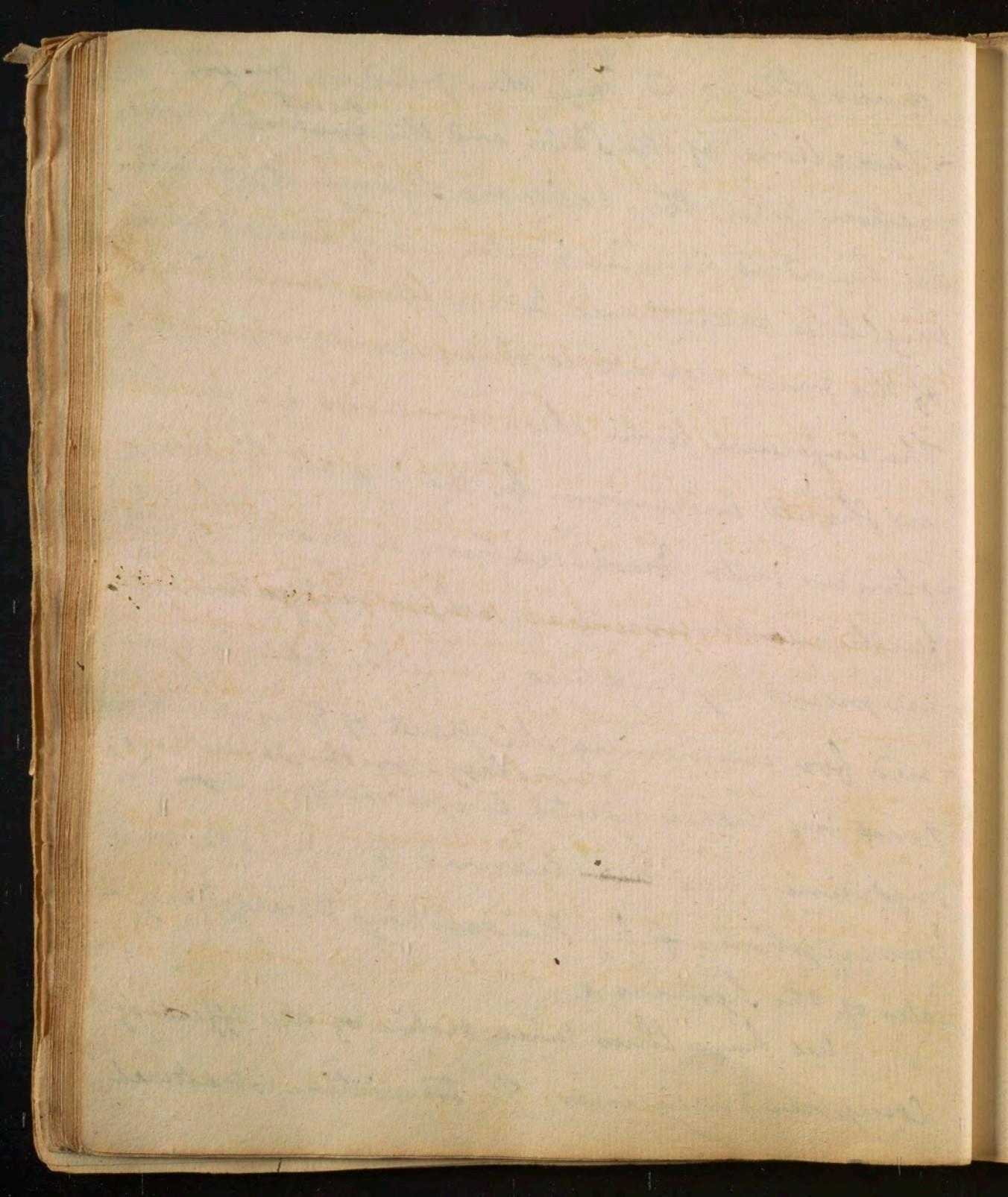
to the stage of a disease in which they are exhibited - to the age & constitution of the patient who takes them, all concur to lead to error in the history of the effects of medicines.

To those innocent sources of error in the character of medicines - there is one more, & that is a disregard to truth. It is the more common and the more to be lamented, as it is difficult, and frequently impossible to detect it. ~~nothing~~ The different & opposite accounts that are published of the effects of the same medicines prove the correctness of these remarks. ~~I shall barely mention~~ To illustrate them further, ^{I shall barely mention} the contrary Opinions of Dr Fordyce, & Dr Cullen of the effects of Tartarized Antimony, Ipecacuanha & the untral Salts. Dr Cullen says they do most good service when they excite Vomita. Dr Fordyce



denies this, and, says they produce ~~great~~^{greatest} relax-
 -ation of the Skin and the ~~most~~^{most} respir-
 -ation when they excite no sickness at stomach.
 An hundred similar instances of Contradictions
 might be mentioned taken from the writings
 of the most respectable physicians in Europe.
 The inference from these remarks is, that
 we should endeavour by taking all circum-
 -stances into Consideration to discover by
 faithful Observation what medicines are
 improved by mixture. A wide field is ope-
 -ned for improving this part of Therapeutics
 since we have rejected ^{metaphysic} ~~Empiricism~~ in
 medicine, and ~~less~~ learned to regulate our
 prescriptions by the existing ^{metaphysic} ~~empirical~~
 States of the Systems.

We have thus taken notice of the effects of
 Compound medicines. The transition is natural

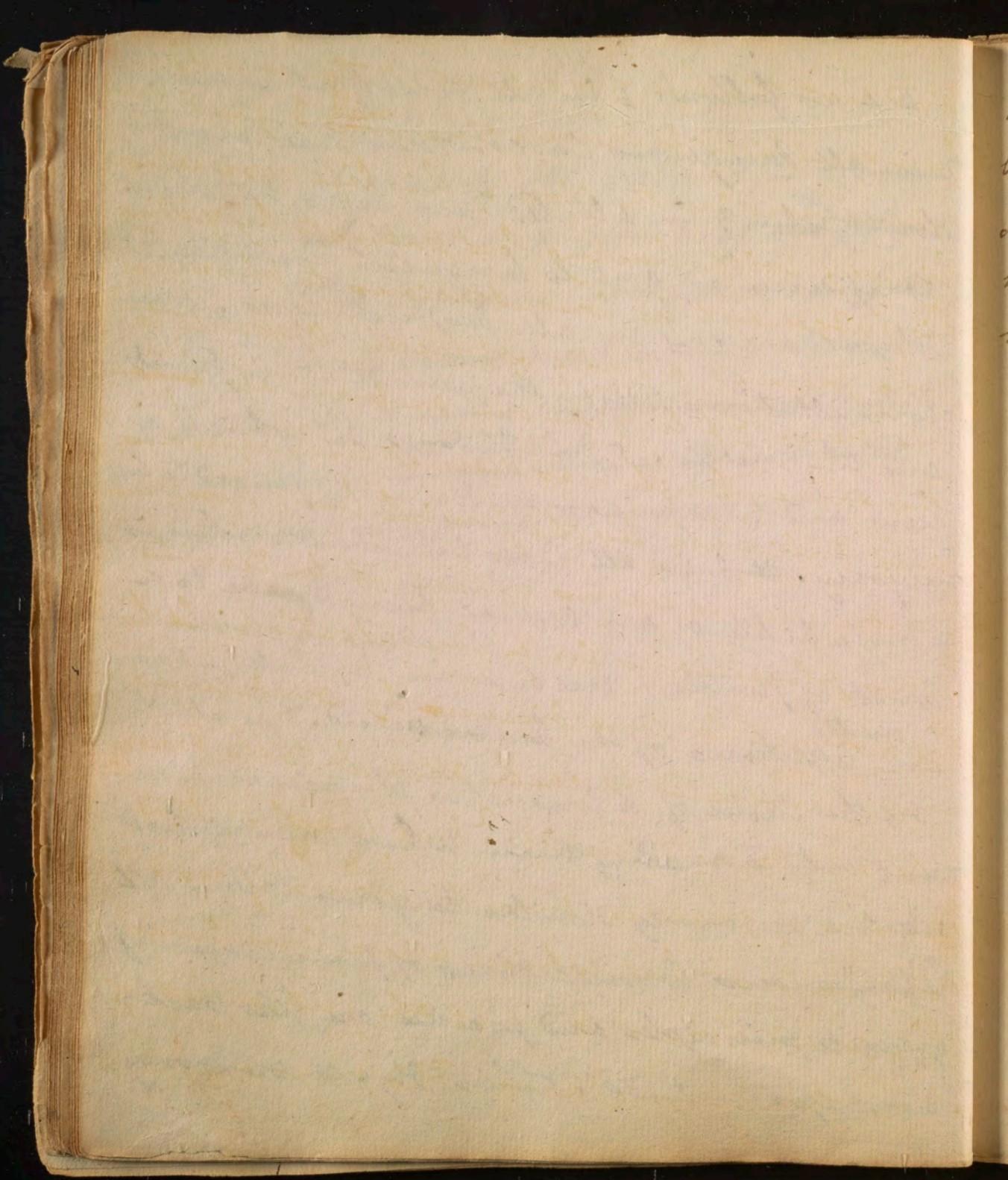


from this hasty ut to say a few words of compound Councils, that is of Consultations in the treatment of Diseases. They are highly useful. 1 because as "iron sharpeth iron", so one man's understanding sharpens another in all the affairs of human life. 2 because they begat Confidence & hope. The physician who is called into a consultation acts by his presence with the force & effect of novelty and of a reinforcement to a party engaged in battle upon the mind of a patient & 3 because they now suppose that excess of solicitude which sometimes embarrasses the judgment of a solitary physician. 4 because they divide responsibility, and thereby protect the profession of medicine, and of individual physicians in an unsuccessful issue of a disease. The cases in which Consultations should be resorted to,

V Cases in which the patient is a ~~sister~~
a near relation, or ~~or~~ friend of ~~the~~ ^a physician.
The affection and solicitude for
such patients ~~wants~~ weaken the judgment,
~~and often~~ by creating irresolution and timidity,
and render ^{the trial of a} ~~consultation of~~ an interested
physician indispensably necessary. —

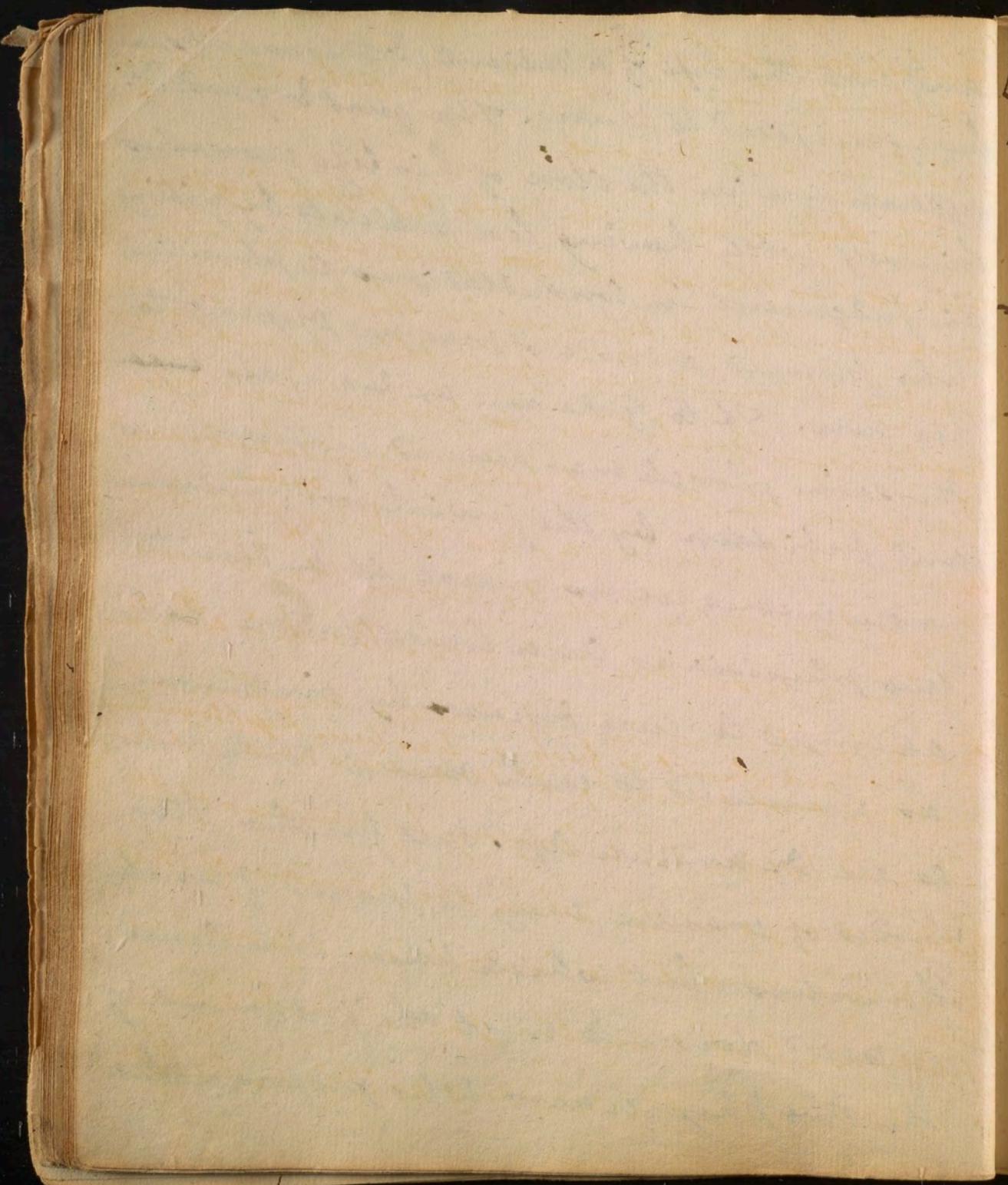
are as follow. & in all doubtful cases.
 2 in all dangerous cases - that are not
 doubtful. 3 in all tedious cases in which
 confidence is apt to languish in a single
 physician. 4 in all desperate cases. Here
 consultations satisfy the patient - his friends,
 and the public. 5 In all cases in which a
 new and unpopular medicine is judged to be
 necessary. ~~6~~⁶ in all cases in which there is
 a probability of an appeal being made to a
 court of justice, such as in ^{diseases from} ^{agents - poison,}
^{injurious} and afflictions of the ^{or} ~~bad~~ friend. 7 In all

In the choice of a consulting physician con-
 cent only to meeting him whose principles &
 practice are nearly similar to your own. All
 heterogeneous consultations of physicians of
 opposite principles and practice are like part-
 nerships in trade. Their objects are money,



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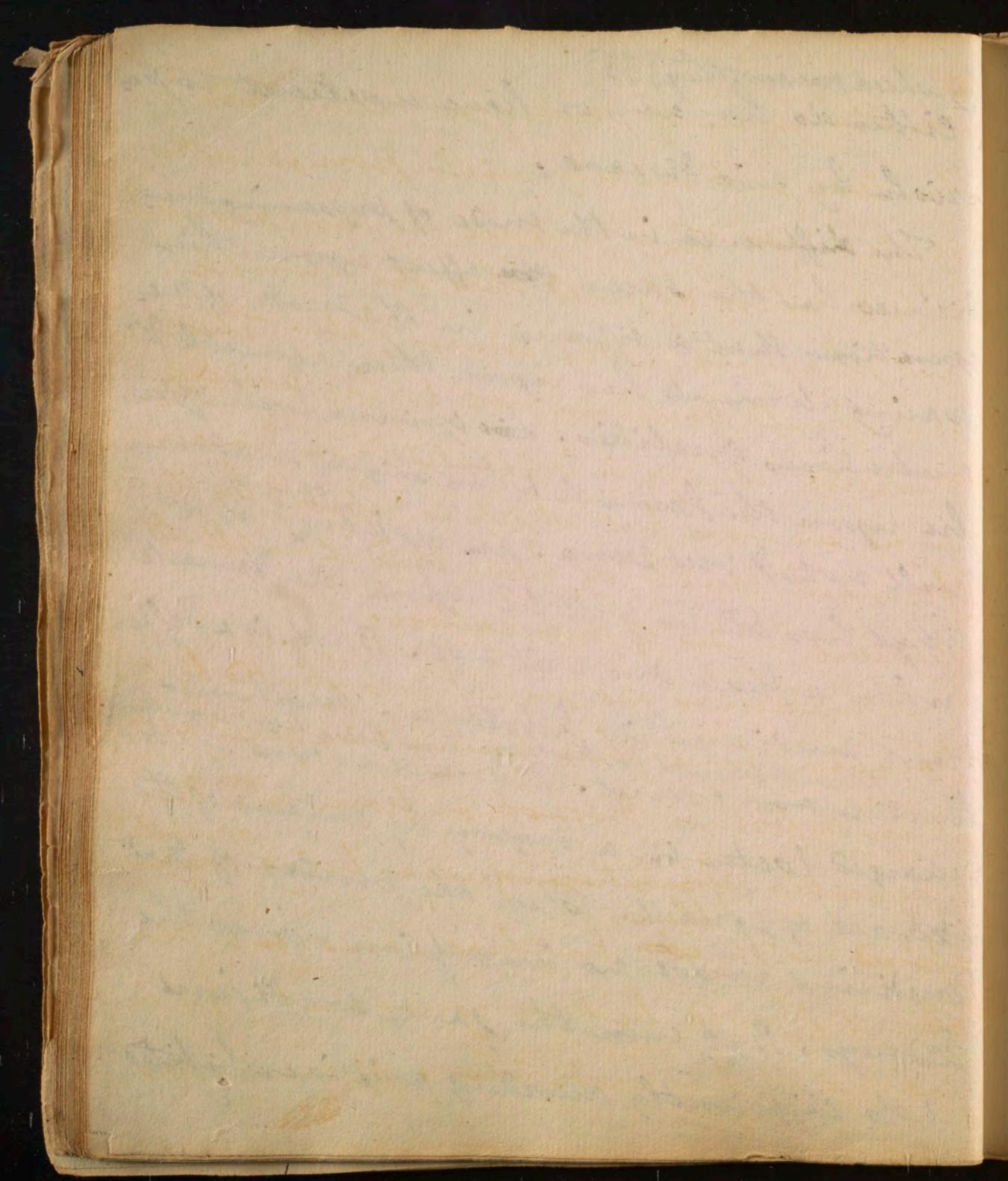
and not the life of a patient, & thousands have
been sacrificed to them. The great & good Dr.
Sydenham in the close of his life reproaches
himself with having lost patients by yielding
his judgment in consultations to physicians,
who pursued a mode of practice opposite to
his own. If to take an ox & an up ~~in~~ⁱⁿ,
the same plough was deemed incongruous,
and forbidden by the Jewish law, how much
more incongruous must it be to unite
two physicians in a consultation, who
attempt to cure disease by medicines
as unrelated to each other, & to the disease,
as an ox and an ap? But further, two
modes of practice may be proper if used by
themselves, but which when combined,
are pared down to meet the judgments of
the two physicians who propose them,



[by which means they] 36

either do harm, or leave a patient to perish by his disease:

The difference in the mode of preparing medicines has the same ~~as~~ effect upon their operation that a difference in the mode of preparing aliments has upon their agreeable & nutritious qualities. Opium will often lie upon the stomach when liquid Laudanum will not, & vice versa. An old & dry ^{opium} pill Dr Whyst has told us will lie upon the stomach when a fresh one will not. Bark is a different medicine in substance - motion tincture and extract & Dr Graver says he dis- charged water in a dray by means of the extract of Sgrills, when the powder of that medicine made no impression upon the kidneys. But even the same medicine acts differently according as it is exhibited



in the form of powder or pills. This is the case particularly with iron, & bitters of all kinds. They produce the most powerful effects when dissolved in the mouth, and pharynx in the former state. These facts should teach us not to lay aside a medicine which is indicated in a disease, until we have but which is refused by the stomach, until we have tried it in all its different modes of preparation.

Medicines are sometimes rejected by the stomach from their having disagreed with it in a former disease, or from some disagreeable association of ideas being ^{associated} ~~connected~~ with them. In these cases, so a patient should be kept ignorant of the name of his medicines. Opium has

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often been retained in this way, & I have known an instance in which Calomel was well received by the stomach of a lady when disguised, who could not retain it a moment when she knew ~~the amount of~~ ^{what had been} administered to her. There are other cases in which ^{an} advantage of another kind will arise from concealing the name of the medicine we give to our patients, and that is, it will renew his faith in it. This will be the more necessary if the medicine be a simple and a common one, and the patient not unmerciful for his understanding. The influence of the principle of the faith in the human mind is ~~very great~~ over the body is very great. The Scrophula has been cured by it by means of what is called the "Royal touch" in the

✓ No new medicine or article of diet
should be given as seldom as possible in
the evening. Should it disagree with a patient
it will be less easy to obviate its bad effects
during the night than in the day time.

When you are doing well, do not
try to do better, - or in other words,
when your patient is mending, make
no change in his medicines, diet or
manner of living in order to precipitate
his cure. Remember the epitaph which
a gentleman here composed for himself,
"I was well. I wished to be better. I took
physic - and I died."

Do not leave off the use of

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14th & 15th centuries in England. Of which one
thir trusts chiefly to it. There are again
persons of strong minds to whom not only
the names of the medicines we exhibit shd.
be made known, but our whole plan
of cure. In these persons Reason ~~cooperates~~
~~with~~ ^{turns} ~~faith~~ foundation of faith, and both
concur to aid us in all our prescriptions.

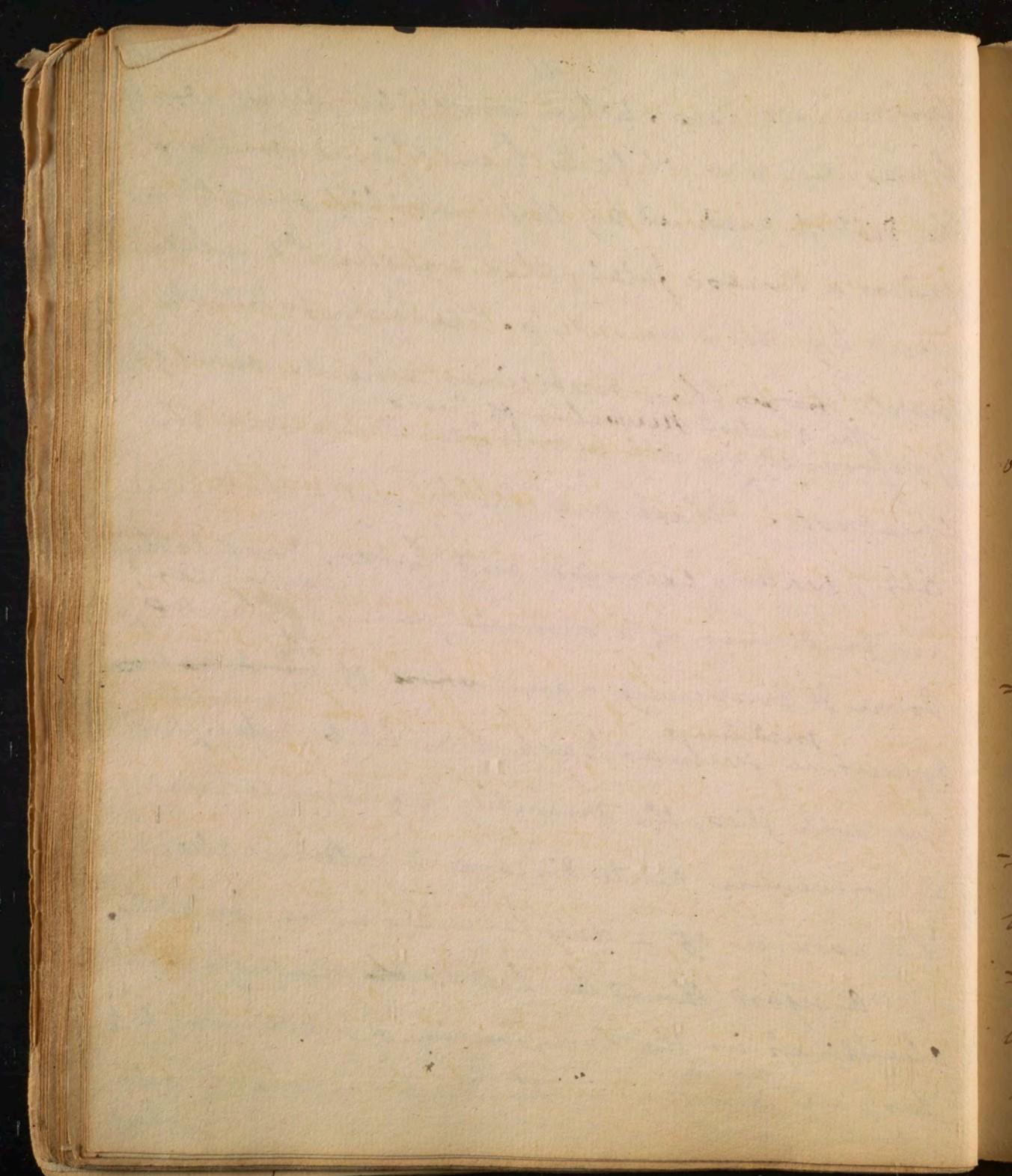
V There are two classes of medicines which
should be ^{rarely} prescribed, ~~as rarely as possible~~. These
are medicines which shock the prejudices
and feelings of our patients, ~~by this~~ ^{such as are} and
very expensive. ~~medicine~~ To the former
class belonged some years ago, the powder of
human Skins, ~~of dogs~~ known by the
name of Cranium humanum, Dogs dung
known by the name of Album spectrum,
- Lambs blood, - & Cows Urine, known by the

of a medicine which you believe from
experience to be suited to a disease because
it disagrees with a patient the first few
times he takes it, or because he appears
to be worse after it. Many medicines are
like bleeding in this respect; they appear
to do harm where they are doing good.
Thus ~~a drink~~^{which is sometimes} ~~is~~ ~~the root of it~~ is offensive to the
stomach for weeks and months, and
~~by~~^{happens not only} ~~at~~ a perseverance in ~~the root of it~~
agreeable, but frequently cures diseases
which yield to no other remedy. —

These ~~know~~ of all flower water, & ~~and~~ have yielded
to in modern times to Monk - Castor - Chicken
gizzards - Buff's gall and the Wine of the pole-
cat. - Of these modern remedies I shall only
say, that if they have done good, it at any
time, they owe their ~~cutter~~ either efficacy, to the honor they
exist in the System, - or to qualities which
are possessed in a higher degree by many
less expensive ~~or~~ mineral & vegetable
substances. In favor of studying Economy in
our prescriptions, let us recollect that perhaps
inspurs the means of coming & collecting mo-
ney, and that the efficacy of an expensive
medicine in such circumstances may be lessened
by the sedative effects of its high price. Sea
voyages, long journeys, distant mineral waters,
and Baths of Bark - wine and ardent spirits
should not be mentioned to persons in indigent

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circumstances, when prescribed, & not adopted
 from an inability to bear their expenses,
 the distress produced by that inability sometimes
 renders a disease fatal, that might have been
 cured by other remedies. Happily for sick
 people ~~there~~ those medicines which have
 the greatest number of cures
 performed in all ages & countries, are the
 cheapest. These are the lancet - abstinence,
 air, water, exercise and labor. Next to these
 are medicines of a moderate price, such as
 Iron & mercury - and ~~water~~ ^{garlic, tea,} &c.
^{mustard}
 expensive, such as Bark, Rhubarb, Jalap, and
 Spanish flies, the quantity required to cure
 a common acute disease, is seldom above
 the resources of a day labourer in all countries.
 A regard should be had to the neatness and
 cleanliness in the composition of medicines, & to
 taste and correctness in the directions which accom-
 -pany



them. A bottle of a red or green, or any other
offensive color - a label carelessly tied upon the
neck of ~~the~~ a vial - pills of an ~~unequal~~ unequal
size, or that are amalgamated with each
other - powders coarsely pulverized, or unequally
divided - and directions written in a cursive,
or illegible hand, ~~written~~ or ~~is~~ in abbreviated
words, - or with bad spelling, or without the
name of the patient inscribed upon them, never
fail to lessen the confidence of a patient in a phy-
sician, and to lessen the effects of his medicines
upon a disease. Even the shop ~~in~~ in which
a physician keeps his medicines should ex-
hibit marks of neatness and order. I once
heard a gentleman express a total want of con-
fidence in a physician's judgment only because
he went accidentally into his shop, and saw
his counter covered with bottles without

They require in many instances their
condiments as well as relishments to make
them lie easily upon the stomach, and
serve to increase their efficacy.

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Corks - and his Scales and weights scattered over every part of it. He inferred that the same want of order pervaded the physician's mind.

The forms of medicines in common use are Pulps - Doses liquids intended to be given in drops, - pills - powder extracts infusions - decoctions & tisanes.

Boluses and Electuaries are nearly banished from the shops of the Apothecaries.

Raisins should be taken to ^{upon the dis-}
agreeable taste of ^{provided it can be done} medicines ~~as agreeable as possible to taste,~~
~~without impairing their virtues.~~ Dr. Stahl
speaks highly of a Dr. Thorer who got
into business by rendering his medicines palatable to his patients. The same rule ^{is more proper} ~~for those~~
applied to the diet of sick people. It is a high art
of kindness and humanity to ^{to please} study their appetites,

V "Optima mediana; aliqrando nulla
medicina." I know not who was the author
of this Aphorism, but I am sure he deserves
more credit for it, than are the discoverers of
three fourths of all the articles of the *Materia
Medica*. It

X "Optima medicina; aliqrando, nulla
medicina." The painters say "manum
de tabula" when a picture is finished. The
same thing may sometimes be said to
a physician in the treatment of disease.
"manum & officina" - that is - "take
away your hand from your drawers
and bottles." The cases in which this
rule is necessary are where life is suspended
by a single thread, and where the last addition
to that or abstraction from the stimuli which
support it may cut that thread. We some-
times read here of patients recovering who have
been given over by their physicians. It is be-
cause they have been left to the accidental ratio
between the capacity of life & the ~~the external stimuli(a)~~
that were acting upon it.

by preparing medicines and food that will be agreeable to them. A pious lady in this city once said "the world rather make a cup of Canaille to please the taste of a sick person than discover a new planet." ^{Divided from the taste of the food thus prepared is part of its} Recollect the pleasure ^{Diseases.} derived from the taste of ~~the~~ food thus prepared, is part of its remedy. There are ~~cases~~ ^{diseases.} in which it will be useful to abstract all kinds of medicines. ^V

~~1st. It is necessary when the disease is reduced down to be the level of the feeble operations of nature, in which case the most feeble medicine may thwart - or retard - or by accelerating the actions of nature, produce a new disease.~~

~~2nd. It is necessary when we wish to ~~get~~ give our patient an exclusive reliance upon exercise - journeys - baths or mineral waters. - By abstracting medicines from them we "shut them up" as it were to the faithful and constant use of those efficient remedies.~~

~~2^o when we wish to see what actions
nature will make take on, or what
efforts she will make to relieve herself by
determining disease to a part of the body,
in which we may most effectually ^{assist} ~~oppose~~,
or oppose her. By abstracting medicines we
favour all counter currents to the operations
nature. turn back to 3 = p 54]~~

~~E~~ ~~where there is danger of patients com-~~
~~plaining from the want of medicines they~~
~~should be derived by bread pills}~~

= A physician in this case should follow
the advice an old Clergyman once gave
to a young preacher that is "always to
leave off when he had done"; training
thereby - when he had exhausted his
Subject. -

3 medicines should be withheld, or laid
aside when we wish to best in our patients
an exclusive reliance upon exercise, journeys,
baths or mineral waters. By abstracting
Medicines from them without them esp
ut it were to the faithful and constant
use of those efficient remedies. *

However ^{minute} ~~brief~~ these directions may
appear to be for ascertaining the time of
laying the aside the use of medicines be advised,
~~that~~ they are highly important, and that
the success of your practice will ~~no~~ depend
very much upon your attending to them.

